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THE NEWSPAPER FOR MAIDSTONE, MALLING, LARKFIELD AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES

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ONE-TO-ONE WITH GYLES

Former MP Gyles Brandreth has been unveiled as among the star turns set to perform at the Hazlitt Theatre this season.

The ex-Government whip-turned TV presenter is looking to add yet another string to his bow by trying out life as a stand up comedian. His One-to-One Show will hit the town next year.

Part Scouse, part communist funny man, Alexei Sayle, will also bring his new show, titled Stalin Ate My Homework: A memoir, to Maidstone.

And former Loose woman and Brookside actress Claire Sweeney plays the lead role in touring West End musical, Tell Me On a Sunday. For more information turn to page 18.

■ BY JOE BILL

A MUM dowsed herself in petrol before setting herself on fire, an inquest has been told.

The court at Maidstone's Archbishops Palace heard how Annmichelle Ferris, 46, of Temple Way, East Malling, attempted to kill herself in a neighbour's garden before being rushed to hospital where she later died.

An open verdict was ruled by coroner Roger Sykes. He concluded that Mrs Ferris had died on Thursday, October 22, 2009, from multiple organ failure because of the burns to 50 per cent of her body.

Formerly known as Susan Ferris, the mother of two had become depressed after splitting from her husband, Brian Ferris.

The court heard how Mrs Ferris had lost weight and stopped looking after herself and her two sons, who were then taken into care.

Mrs Ferris was given anti-depressant pills but it was her friend and neighbour Rosalind Watts who had been helping her combat the depression.

In a statement from Rosalind, it said how she used to make Mrs Ferris and her sons breakfast in the mornings and even went shopping for her.

On the morning of Wednesday, October 7, 2009, Rosalind and her family were sitting in their front room when Mrs Ferris entered the garden through the back gate as she usually did most days.

But the statement read: "I could see that the bottom left part of her jacket was alight.

"She was panicking and I was trying to help

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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your lifestyle

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STYLE

WEATHER

COMPETITION

CINEMA/TV

MUSIC/TRAVEL

MOTORING

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Family mourns soldier killed in Helmand attack

■ BY JOE BILL

A BRAVE Gurkha has been killed by insurgents in Afghanistan while trying to build a protective barrier for other soldiers in Helmand Province.

Sapper Ishwor Gurung, from the 69 Gurkha Field Squadron, died when his unit came under attack during construction of a new barricade to increase protection to the Shahzad Operating Base.

Members of his troop tried to save the 22-year-old, but the Ministry of Defence confirmed that Sapper Gurung had been killed in action.

Ishwor was attached to the 36 Engineer Regiment, who are based at the Invicta Barracks, Maidstone, and was on his first tour in Afghanistan.

Caring

This news comes only a month after Maidstone's 36 engineer regiment lost Mark Smith in a friendly fire incident in Helmand Province.

Sapper Ishwor Gurung family said: "Our family is devastated with the news of Ishwor's death in Afghanistan. Ishwor was 14 years old when his father died and he fully supported the family as a young man. He was a very caring and bright boy."

"He followed in his father's footsteps, his father was a soldier in the Indian Army. He loved the Army and was very proud to be a Gurkha."

"I am proud that my son served in the British Army and that he died doing a job that he loved."

The sapper leaves his mother Sunkumari, brother Ramprasad and sister Richa.

Ishwor was born in Nepal in October 1988. He then went on to



COURAGEOUS: Sapper Ishwor Gurung died

pass selection for the Brigade of Gurkhas and completed infantry training in Catterick, North Yorkshire in 2007.

The keen boxer completed his Combat Engineer training at the Royal School of Military Engineering before being posted to 69 Gurkha Field Squadron, part of 36 Engineer Regiment in Maidstone where he also trained as a bricklayer and concreter.

Major Ian Moore, Royal Engineers, Officer Commanding 69 Gurkha Field Squadron added: "Sapper Ishwor Gurung was an outstanding young soldier. He was the archetypal Gurkha; always well turned out, unbelievably polite and modest to the core."

"That said, he was never afraid to ask questions and he readily engaged me when he felt the need."

"My last meeting with him was a typical example of this as we sat late into the evening talking about his plans for post-tour leave in Nepal and what the squadron would do on its return to the UK."



RAMMED: Land Rover repeatedly hit cop car

Driver rammed police after being stopped

A LAND ROVER driver is being hunted by police after repeatedly reversing into a patrol car on Friday night.

A man driving a dark green Discovery was pulled over by officers in Frittenden Road, Staplehurst, at 11.20pm.

He then repeatedly reversed the H-reg car into the front of the patrol car before making his escape. Officers were forced to flee from their vehicle.

Both sustained whiplash injuries, although they have now returned to duty.

The police car was badly damaged.

Anyone who may have seen a similar vehicle at the time or subsequently, which would have sustained significant damage in the incident, is asked to call police in Maidstone on 01622 604210 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Abusive teen texter gets restraining order

A TEXT thug has been slapped with a restraining order after pleading guilty to harassing a teenage girl.

Danielle Smith, 18, of Square Hill Road, Maidstone, sent a number of threatening mobile phone messages to her 17-year-old victim between Saturday, May 15 and Saturday, June 26 this year.

She also sent messages to friends and associates on an online social media network, knowing that the information would be passed on.

The bully was sentenced at Mid Kent Magistrates Court on Monday, August 2.

She was sentenced to a £50 deduction in benefits and given a community order of 12 hours at an Attendance Centre. She was also given a one-year restraining order and ordered to pay £50 costs.

Change gives birth to new type of care

AHEAD of major changes to the way maternity services are provided for mothers-to-be in Maidstone, a top doctor has explained why they are vital.

The Health Secretary Andrew Lansley has approved the highly controversial proposals to centralise consultant-led women's and children's services at the new private finance initiative hospital (PFI) at Pembury, near Tunbridge Wells, when it opens in July next year.

As a result Maidstone Hospital would have a midwife-led birthing unit, which would be the first in west Kent.

The NHS in west Kent must now address the concerns raised by Kent County Council's health overview and scrutiny committee and health campaigners in the county town over the switch.

Objectors in Maidstone feel their



CRITICISED: Pembury's new-look hospital

hospital is being downgraded, but health bosses have argued that continuing to provide full services from both sites is not sustainable.

Dr Wilson Bolsover, clinical director for women's and children's services at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, said: "As a clinician myself and Gillian Duffy, who is head

of midwifery, we are absolutely sure this is safe. But it is also safer and better than trying to carry on with what we are doing at present."

"We absolutely recognise it is less convenient for people who live in the Maidstone locality, but we are minimising that by making sure clinic appointments and scans are still going on in the Maidstone area."

"The only difference is that for the actual birth they would need to come to Pembury or if there were serious complications with the pregnancy they should be an inpatient at Pembury."

"Antenatal scans, midwifery visits will all be carrying on close to home exactly as at present."

Campaigners believe that Maidstone is being overlooked in favour of the new state-of-the-art hospital at Pembury.

Doc in 'Bloodgate' saga facing sack for cut lip

Rugby ruse was caught on TV

A DOCTOR from Maidstone could face the sack if she is found guilty of cutting a professional sportsman's lip to help him fake injury.

Dr Wendy Chapman was acting as the Harlequins rugby club's match-day specialist when player Tom Williams burst a fake blood capsule in his mouth in order to be substituted for a specialist goal kicker.

It is alleged that Dr Chapman then cut the winger's lip to make his injury appear genuine after the match in April 2009.

The accident and emergency consultant at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust will go before the General Medical Council (GMC) on Monday, August 23.

Investigating

A statement from the GMC has said: "It is alleged that Dr Chapman, whilst working as match-day doctor at the rugby union Heineken Cup match, examined Tom Williams and made statements to deceive others that he had sustained an injury on the field of play.

"It is further alleged that Dr Chapman deliberately cut Tom Williams' lip with a scalpel and caused the injury to deceive others that an injury had been sustained on the field of play."

Television cameras spotted Mr Williams winking to the team bench and at a subse-

■ BY JOE BILL

quent European Rugby Cup hearing investigating the incident, Williams said he asked Dr Chapman to cut his mouth.

In the following September last year, the GMC gave Dr Chapman an interim suspension.

The GMC statement added: "Additionally, it is alleged that in July 2009, in giving evidence to a disciplinary committee of the European Rugby Cup, Dr Chapman did not inform the committee that she had caused the injury to Tom Williams' lip.

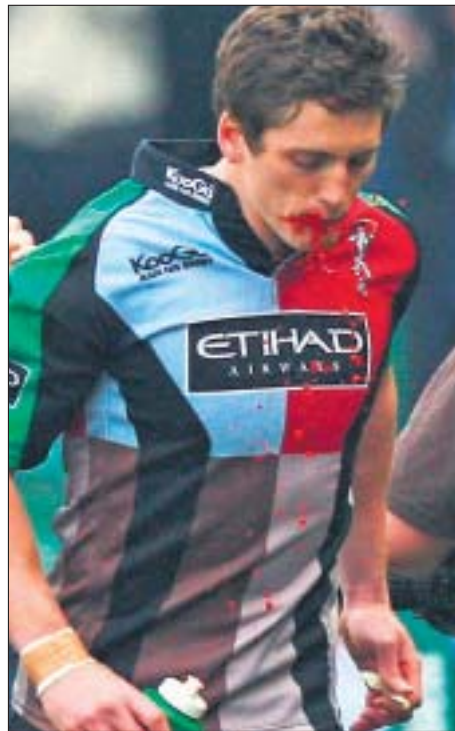
"It is alleged that Dr Chapman's conduct was likely to bring the profession into disrepute and was dishonest."

The 'Bloodgate' incident occurred during a Heineken Cup quarter-final match that Harlequins went on to lose.

The blood capsule allowed the London club to bring on a specialist kicker to try and win them the game when they were trailing 6-5.

Harlequins were fined £290,000 with the clubs' director of rugby former England star Dean Richards being banned from the game for three years and Williams banned for four months.

The Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Hospital Trust has so far declined to comment on the issue.



FAKE INJURY: Harlequin's Tom Williams bit into a blood capsule before allegedly having his lip cut by Dr Wendy Chapman in 2009

Council delighted by CCTV's success

THE CCTV systems in Maidstone have been hailed a success after more than 180 incidents were captured and resolved last month.

Many pieces of footage led to positive police action while others just helped to serve people around the town during July.

Incidents included the council's CCTV control room helping to locate a 10-year-old boy who had gone missing in the town centre.

The youngster went missing in Fremlin Walk, but within five minutes of the being told, the CCTV team were able to locate him.

Community Services chief, councillor John Wilson, said: "What a fantastic figure. This is a great example of partnership working to combat crime and also aid in situations where CCTV acts as the eyes for the town."

Broadcast

The Midsafe Radio Scheme is also in place so town officials can share information, including photographs of known and suspected criminals across Kent helping to make the borough a safer place.

The CCTV control room also helped with another case of a missing 20-year-old woman who had been lost in Maidstone all day.

There were fears for her safety, but again with the Midsafe broadcast and the cameras looking out for the woman, she was found.

Five mobile CCTV cameras were in operation during the Maidstone River Festival which covered 95 per cent of the event for Maidstone council.

Cllr Wilson, said: "This is the first time that additional mobile cameras have been used to monitor the River Festival to ensure that the event remains safe and enjoyable.

"It is now something we can use more of in the future."

Mum 'did not want to die'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE
to take her clothes off."

Rosalind was able to put the fire out and then rushed Mrs Ferris up to the bathroom and put cold water on her.

When the emergency services arrived at the house in Hardie Close, Mrs Ferris was wrapped in a blanket. She was quoted as saying she 'did not want to die and did not know why she had done it'.

Mrs Ferris was taken to Maidstone Hospital before being transferred to the intensive care unit at Queen Victoria Hospital in East Grinstead.

Nurse Gillian Ratoff said that when Mrs Ferris first arrived at the hospital she was able to breathe on her own and even quoted her as saying: "I am so sorry to cause all this trouble."

Despite surgeons working on skin grafts for her, Mrs Ferris' condition deteriorated and she could no longer stay alive without machine support.

She died soon after.

Coroner Roger Sykes added: "There is no positive evidence that can conclude she did want to commit suicide. But this is also the case in proving that she did not want to.

"In these circumstances the conclusion I have come to is an open verdict."

100 hours community service for driver who killed mother-of-three

■ BY JOE BILL

A CARELESS driver who dropped his cigarette and swerved into oncoming traffic has been handed a sentence of 100 hours community service after the collision killed a mother-of-three.

Daniel Wellard, of Augustine Road in Sheerness, was travelling to work on the A26 in Watlington on October 22, last year, when he lost concentration and smashed head-on into the car of 48-year-old Deborah Lawson from Gravesend.

Mrs Lawson died at the scene.

Wellard was found guilty of causing death by careless driving for which he was handed a one-year driving ban and 100 hours of community service at Maidstone Magistrates on Friday, August 13.

In court a letter of apology was read by the defence solicitor to the family of Deborah Lawson from Wellard, who acknowledged his careless actions had resulted in the death of an innocent woman.

PC Warren Jarvis, who acted as the family liaison, says that cases like these are all too common.

He said: "In this case, the result was the death of an innocent woman.

"Two family's lives have been devastated by this collision - Mrs Lawson's and also the defendant, Mr Wellard, who now has to live with the consequences of his actions.

"I would ask others to bear this case in mind while driving and to remain vigilant while on the road, as not doing so could mean your life or someone else's."

Wellard had previously pleaded guilty to the charges at a hearing on July 2.

PC Jarvis added: "It just takes a momentary lapse of concentration while driving and the consequences can be severe."

Wellard was employed as a nurse at the Kent and Sussex hospital. He was driving to the hospital when the crash happened.

Mrs Lawson leaves behind her three children, Matthew, 28, twins Elizabeth and Theresa, 23.

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IN WITH THE NEW: Maidstone Museum makeover is going ahead and will be completed in a year's time

Museum wings artefacts into the modern era

WITH less than a year to completion, the new £3.7 million East Wing of Maidstone Museum is starting to take shape.

The renovation of the old buildings and the construction of the new gallery will be handed over by builders in April, with the final touches to be completed before the summer time.

The museum and heritage manager Simon Lace is delighted with the progress and is sure that the new layout will take the museum to the next level.

He said: "This will provide us with the facilities and the space to show off all the collections the museum has to offer."

"We will have the ability to attract new exhibits from national museums with more security. We can really get into the museum top league. "We have so many artefacts in storage that are unable to go on display and now we will be able to show them."

"For example we have a nine metre long war canoe from 1863, which was given to the museum and it has never been displayed because we have not had the room to put it anywhere."

The museum has more than 600,000 artefacts and the new three story building will house many of these that are currently hidden in storage.

Simon Lace said: "It is like having a larder full of fantastic food and always using the

■ BY JOE BILL

beans. The new building and storage systems we are updating will mean we can get right to the back and bring out all the exotic herbs and spices."

The L-shape East Wing will connect to the two older buildings and will create a Tudor court yard in between. The new complex will also feature a classroom for school children, of which they had 9,000 visit last year.

"It will also feature new essential facilities like wheelchair access toilets and lifts to different levels of the museum."

Mr Lace said: "Only five years ago we were getting 38,000 people coming through the doors, which was poor. Now we are getting 70,000, but after the new wing is built I want to reach over 100,000 visitors a year."

A new open plan reception is also to be built making it easy for larger groups to gather and there will be a community space available for different groups to hire out.

The National Lottery stumped up £2m of the total cost of the upgrade and Mr Lace is delighted to have got the money before lottery grants start to be dominated more by the upcoming London Olympics.

Simon added: "We have dragged this museum kicking and screaming into the 20th century and now we are going to walk it into the 21st century. That is exactly where it should be."

Visit www.museum.maidstone.gov.uk.

Scorned lesbian carries out text blitz

A LOVELORN lesbian bombarded her ex-partner with 145 text messages in 24 hours, a court was told.

Distraught Tammy Rye, 20, from Catford, kept sending Maidstone based Sheyrl O'Neill calls and hung around outside her home in Vale Road, Parkwood.

On May 18 she jumped onto the bonnet of her car smashing the windscreen in the process.

She admitted causing distress by her constant texting.

Miss O'Neill called police in the middle of the texting blitz.

One said: "I'm outside your place - I'm naked babe I need to talk to you."

As she called Miss O'Neill answered the

phone and played the loudspeaker so officers could hear.

Jenny Yale, prosecuting, said 100 of the texts were love messages but others were abusive and threatening.

Patrick Bligh, defending, said in hindsight Rye was being used so the mother of one could dump her ex-male partner.

He said: "According to my client Sheyrl made all the running because she wanted to end her relationship with her boyfriend. The defendant feels used by Sheyrl. She felt she was in love with her and was very upset when it broke up. She now wishes no contact with her at all."

Rye was given a conditional discharge for six months and ordered to pay £85 costs.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Welfare system overhaul

MORE than 2,000 Maidstone residents claimed Jobseekers' Allowance last month.

The latest Department for Work & Pensions figures show there were a total of 2,181 claimants in the Medway towns.

This compares to 6,434 in Medway, 3,915 in Thanet, 2,181 and 1,734 in Ashford.

Unemployment fell nationwide, however there are still nearly five million residents claiming out of work benefits.

Employment Minister, Chris Grayling said: "The fact that there are still five million people on out of work benefits underlines the scale of Britain's welfare challenge and shows we are right to radically overhaul our welfare system."

"From early next year we will start full scale re-testing of incapacity benefit claimants and our Work Programme will come into force to ensure that long term unemployed people and others who need it have tailored support to move them into sustained work."

TV fee dodgers caught

MORE than 370 TV licence fee dodgers were caught in Maidstone in the first six months of this year. The residents were among 209,000 fellow non-fee payers across the UK to be identified by TV Licensing.

A spokesman for the licensing body said: "The vast majority of people in Maidstone pay their licence fee, and to be fair to those who pay, we have to be firm with those who attempt to get away without paying."

A colour TV Licence currently costs £145.50. Anyone watching TV illegally risks prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000.

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SHUT: Police officer issues crack house's closure

Men charged after raid shuts crack den

TWO men have been charged with drug offences following a police raid on a suspected crack den earlier this year.

Officers raided the property at Ragstone Lodge, Maidstone, in June, following a tip-off from a concerned neighbour.

The flat was subsequently closed thanks to a court-imposed crack house closure order.

Police have now charged Thomas Peter Sharpe, 23, of Uptons, Headcorn, and Neil Anthony Hurley, 35, of Peel Street, Maidstone.

Sharpe is charged with possession of a class B drug while Hurley is charged with possession of a class B drug.

Both men were due to appear before Medway Magistrates Court on Monday.

Police have also cautioned a 22-year-old man for cultivation of cannabis after they stopped a vehicle in Gatland Lane in Maidstone on Friday, August 6, seizing a quantity of herbal cannabis.

A search of the man's house in Barming revealed six cannabis plants were being grown there.

Runner gets 10 out of 10 for his marathon effort

MEET marathon man Alan Keen, who set himself the target of completing ten 26-mile courses in as many months.

The 32-year-old, from Walderslade, began his '10 in 10' challenge in January, and has so far completed marathons in cities across the UK including Gloucester, Cambridge and Blackpool.

The Maidstone Harriers runner, who is raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support, said: "I try to do something for charity every couple of years and last time I ran the London Marathon.

"That raised more money than any other, so I looked for a way to raise the bar, and my '10 in 10' challenge was created.

Dublin

"I wanted something that was going to be a real challenge and I wanted to push myself."

Alan began training for the multiple marathon challenge in June last year, with lunchtime runs through London, where he works in a PR agency.

His efforts look to be paying off, with seven marathons down and only three to go. Race num-

■ BY JOE BILL

ber eight takes place in Ramsgate this month.

With 90 miles of training being clocked up every month Alan is still looking for more people to get their cash out and support his charity crusade.

He said: "So far we have raised around £700 and I am still looking for more people to start getting on board. The way I see it, it would be great to raise £5,000, but if only get £1,000 it is still £1,000 that Macmillan might not have had.

"I talk to the Macmillan offices wherever I go to run and I have the upmost respect for what they do on a daily basis."

Alan will travel to Nottingham next month before ending his mass of marathons in Dublin in October.

He added: "I have no injuries at the moment so we are still going well.

"A few friends are going to come over on that last Dublin trip and hopefully we can make a bit of a weekend of it to celebrate the end at last."

If you want donate and for regular updates on Alan's progress visit his blog at <http://mrkeeno.wordpress.com>.



RUNNING MAN: Alan Keen is taking part in 10 marathons this year to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support

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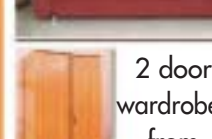
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QUESTION & ANSWER

LEE BENNETT



Q How did you end up working at the Maidstone Town Centre Management Team?

A I started as a sales manager for CTR FM, an independent radio station in Maidstone. In that role I worked very closely with Bill Moss, the town centre manager, which he still is now.

I have always supported him, as I believed very strongly in his vision for the future of the town. I actually approached the directors of the team and asked if I could be Bill's new assistant, their answer was fairly obvious.

I am now the sales and marketing manager. My role is to promote Maidstone and town centre management. This can range from producing our annual Town Centre Guide, maps, and other publications to organising events, including Maidstone Goes Green Week and our marquee at Kent County Show.

I also encourage Maidstone traders to work as a community to create a caring town centre.

Q What do you consider your greatest achievement with the team so far?

A I don't feel I have any personal achievement that I could mention as we work very much as a team that includes the staff and all of our members. But if I was pushed I would have to say I am proud of the marketing group. We have achieved so many things, the latest being a presence at the Kent County Show this year where we were really able to promote Maidstone.

Q Who was your childhood hero and why?

A I actually have two childhood heroes. One of them is my former school headmistress, Miss Morphew. She was head of Vinters Girls School in Maidstone. She was a very powerful woman despite being so short, in contrast to me being 6ft! My second choice is Amy Johnson, the first ever woman pilot.

Q Where would you like to be in five years time?

A In my dream world, I would love to be 10 years younger again. But in reality, I would like to see all our team's hard work paying off and Maidstone to remain a thriving town. I want it to be truly recognised as the county town of Kent.

Q Can you tell us something about yourself that most people do not know?

A BC – before children – I was the deputy manager of a day centre for mentally handicapped adults. I introduced a Christmas party for staff at the centre, which was held every year in a night club in Gillingham. All the centres around Kent used to attend. I also raised funds for the event so this was offered to people free of charge. It was always a fantastic night. I also used to play netball for Kent and trained with the England team's goal keeper.

Q What do you like to do in your spare time?

A I know this sounds a bit mad but I like to catch up with ironing and house work. However, I can be easily dragged away to visit other towns. I am always looking out for new ideas to promote our town.

Q Do you have any other hobbies or passions?

A My other passions are the people who are close to me: my children, my family and my partner Nicholas Emmerton. I like helping him with his business, Completely Unhinged. It's a business that restores and repairs sash windows. Oh, I also like rugby and Facebook.

Q What would be the best thing for Maidstone Town Centre in the future?

A The regeneration is brilliant for the town. This shows we are still very much moving with the times. It is very important that we keep on developing and moving forward.

Q If you could have any other job in the world, what would it be?

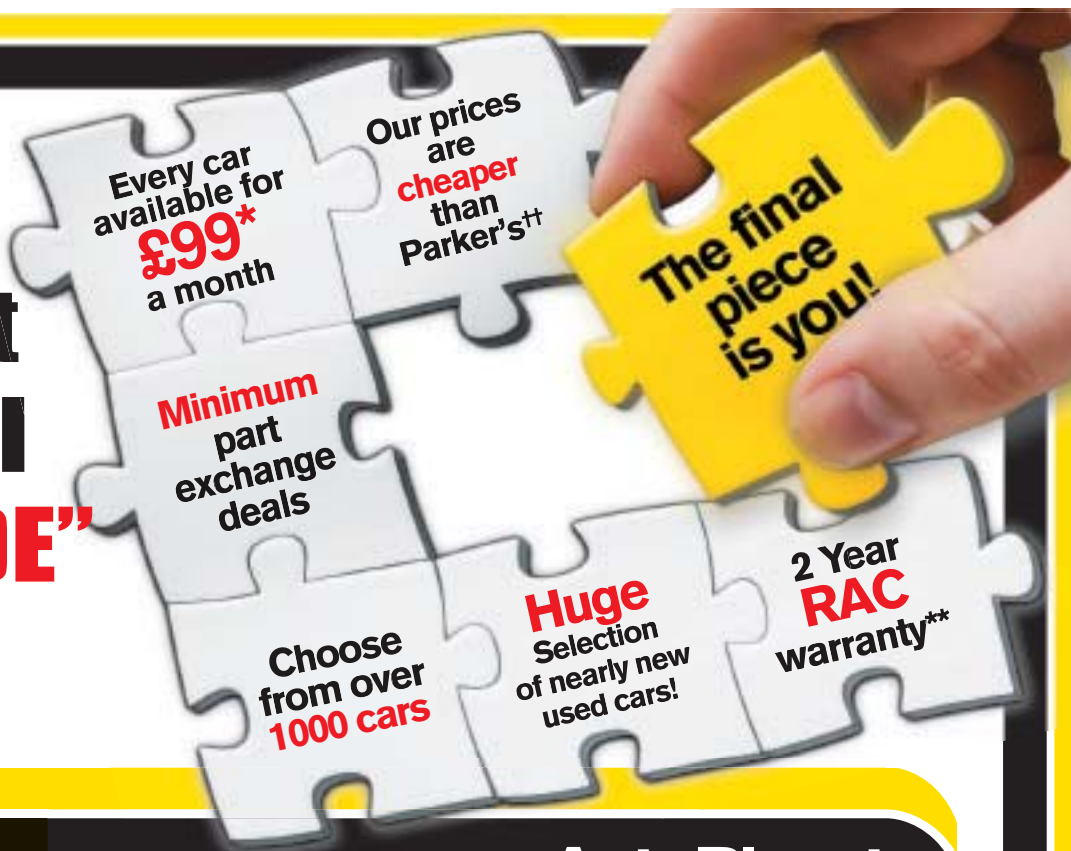
A I don't honestly know, my usual answer to that question is to be a footballer's wife... but no-one ever seems to ask me to be one.

Q & A

The sales and marketing manager for Maidstone town centre talks to **Joe Bill** about her pride in area, who her childhood heroes are, her sporting past and her ambitions to be a footballer's wife

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all makes used

Speeding Jag took the wrong Turner

A MOTORIST has been fined £350 and given six penalty points for claiming someone else was driving his car when it was caught speeding.

Mark Ainley, 48, from Culverstone, pleaded guilty to failing to give the identity of the driver of his car when he appeared before Maidstone magistrates.

The court heard a Jaguar S-type was caught by a mobile camera van travelling at 40mph in a 30mph limit in Borough Green Road, Wrotham, during the evening of November 30, 2009.

Ainley, as the registered owner of the vehicle, was sent official documents by Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership asking for the identity of the driver at the time.

Returned

He nominated a Mr Turner at an address in Eastbourne, but papers sent to the property were returned as "not known at this address".

Officers visited the address and spoke to tenants, who said they had never heard of Mr Turner. The letting agents confirmed that Mr Turner had never lived at the address.

Ainley was interviewed under caution by the police, but could not give any more information about Mr Turner, even though he claimed he was a client and borrowed the car with his permission.

Magistrates fined Ainley £350 and ordered him to pay £50 costs. They also gave him six penalty points.

A police spokesman said: "Ainley was given ample opportunity and plenty of time to explain further about Mr Turner, but he either chose not to or could not, because Mr Turner did not exist."

Road sensors and cameras aim to ease M20 snarl-ups

■ BY MARIJKE COX

VARIABLE speed limits will be enforced by cameras on a six-mile stretch of the M20 following a public consultation.

The controlled motorway system will be installed between Junctions 4 (West Malling) and 7 (Maidstone) and will allow the Highways Agency to manage traffic flows by slowing vehicles down or closing lanes after an accident.

Underground sensors will be used to detect the volume of traffic, the speed it is travelling and how it is flowing.

But the multi-million-pound system, due to be introduced this month, has come under fire from the Association of British Drivers.

When the plans were introduced earlier this year, Kent branch secretary Brian McDowell said: "We strongly object to the idea of sensors under the road deciding how fast vehicles should be able to travel, which is akin to boys playing with train sets."

"To think that on a road system you can have automatic controls similar to what you have on railways is absolutely fallacious."

He added that the differing speed limits and cameras will make motorists more nervous about being caught when they should be concentrating on the road in front of them.

But officials from the Highways Agency say the changes will tackle congestion and make



GO WITH THE FLOW: The variable speed limit system will be used to tackle congestion on part of the M20

journeys safer and more reliable. Regional performance manager Barry Westwood said it will bring great benefits to drivers on the busy section of the M20.

"The system is already being used successfully on the M25 between Junctions 10 and 16, and on the M42 between Junctions 3A to 7," he said. "On the M25, where the system has been in place since 1995, it has helped make the motorway safer by reducing the frequency of collisions by ten per cent and by encouraging drivers to keep within the limits to provide smoother, more reliable journeys. A reduction in emissions of between two and eight per cent has also been recorded on the M25."

Advisory variable speed limits have been in

operation on the M20 since July, 2007, with suggested speeds flashed to motorists when the road is busy via matrix boards linked to underground road sensors, but there is currently no legal requirement to obey them.

But after a 12-week public consultation earlier this year by the Highways Agency, it was found that the majority of people were in favour of the new scheme.

It came after reports that motorists caught speeding in Kent and Medway last year paid a total of more than £2 million in fines. However, there has been a 63 per cent reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured since speed cameras were introduced on the county's roads.



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Wildlife photographer's got his subjects 'clicked'

■ BY MARIJKE COX

STUNNING pictures showing touching moments between wild animals and their offspring have been brought together for a new children's book.

The heart-melting photos were captured by renowned photographer Steve Bloom, from Wye, near Ashford.

The 57-year-old, originally from South Africa, travelled to each of the world's continents to capture images of animals in their natural habitat.

His book, *My Favourite Animal Families*, with text from children's author David Henry Wilson, showcases about 70 of the best and most intimate pictures.

"It's a culmination of about 14 years' work," said Mr Bloom.

"The book is aimed at children, but I think it will appeal to all ages. I want it to take people into another world. I hope children reading my book will come to identify with the animals and realise they have their own separate ways of living, but are still connected to us.

"For example, the young animals have needs, just like babies and children do. Some of the pictures really show the maternal care."

Fourteen wild species feature in the book, including elephants, orangutans and pandas.

Specialises

Each animal family is presented over four pages, showing different aspects of their daily life such as feeding, playing and hunting.

A baby elephant sheltering from the rain under its mother and a young chimpanzee clinging to its mother's back are just two of a selection of intimate pictures showing the relationships between the wild animals and their young.

Mr Bloom said: "Taking these kinds of pictures can be a long process. I worked closely with guides and spoke to local people about how to get close to the animals.

"Take a grizzly bear, for example. You don't want to creep up on it quietly because bears don't like that – you have to make yourself heard – whereas when photographing something like a zebra you mustn't make a lot of noise. The last thing I want to do is cause stress to the animals.

"There is a lot of patience involved in this kind of work. I've waited for weeks before, waiting to get the picture. But it's definitely worth it. I waited for polar bears in temperatures 50 below freezing and decided to stay on longer. After 15 days, a mother came out with her cubs."

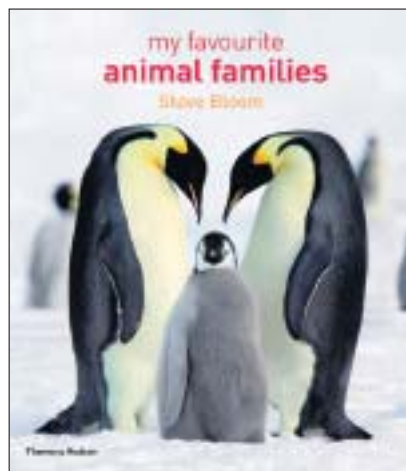
Mr Bloom, who specialises mainly in wildlife photography, has covered other subjects ranging from isolated tribes in Africa to urban people in Nairobi.

His other publications include *Living Africa*, *Spirit of the Wild*; and *Elephants: A Book for Children*.

He said: "I try to shoot from the heart. I go



MOTHER'S PRIDE: Steve's book is the culmination of about 14 years' work and thousands of miles travelling the globe



for eye contact. A lot of it is a subconscious thing and this translates into the work. You can have two photographers taking the same picture and they look different.

"No one really knows why, but the way you feel translates into a picture."

Mr Bloom added: "I've received emails and messages from people who have seen my pic-



tures and who say they have inspired them to work in conservation or to take up wildlife photography. It's a real pleasure to get such feedback."

• *My Favourite Animal Families*, published by Thames and Hudson, is available from bookshops, priced £9.99. Signed copies are available from the website www.stevebloomshop.com.



REACTING: Dungeness meets Government criteria

Dungeness back in running as site for nuclear power plant

A NEW nuclear power station at Dungeness could yet be built after the Government gave its strongest signal yet about its preferred list of sites, writes **James Alexandre**.

Energy Secretary Chris Huhne said the first of a new generation of reactors should be up and running by 2018, and those areas where there are already stations and popular local support are being considered for development.

Mr Huhne told the BBC: "There are a number of sites that have been identified around the country and those are generally on sites where we have previously had, for example, nuclear power stations and where local people are very keen that there should be new nuclear build.

"We have eight years before the first one will come onto the grid.

"We have to get through all the prior arrangements – national planning statements, making sure investors have their applications formally in and approved – and then building can commence."

He said private investors were ready to press ahead due to rising gas and oil prices and MPs would be prepared to vote in favour of new stations if there was no public subsidy involved.

In November, last year, former energy secretary Ed Miliband announced in the Commons that Dungeness would be one of only 11 sites not to be shortlisted for new nuclear stations.

This was based on advice from conservation body Natural England, which warned of the adverse effect on the area's unique ecosystem.

Consultation

Shepway MP Damian Collins welcomed the latest announcement and said Dungeness met the criteria laid down by Mr Huhne.

"It would certainly seem to fit the bill in that there are already nuclear power stations on site, there is considerable local support for a new power station and it is a site the energy companies believe can be developed by 2018," he said.

"Given the need for new and reliable sources of low-carbon energy in the next decade, I would hope the Government, in reviewing the consultation on nuclear sites, would include Dungeness.

"A new station would be a tremendous boost to the local economy."

County councillors and business leaders met in Folkestone on the eve of the general election to hear about the benefits a third reactor could bring.

Station director Graham Finn told them the B reactor pumps £30 million into the local economy and said its 570-strong workforce, plus 200 others who are indirectly employed, could lose their jobs if a new reactor was not commissioned.

Dungeness B is due to run until 2018, with the majority of the ageing nuclear infrastructure due to go offline by 2023.

Government recognises animal park's conservation effort

KENT has one of the best wildlife parks in the country, according to a new Government report.

The study commissioned by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) praised the work done by the staff and management at Wildwood, near Herne Bay, which has been held up as a shining example.

It took into account Wildwood's contribution to conservation and education and also used the animal park as a case study for its outstanding contribution to native wildlife conservation.

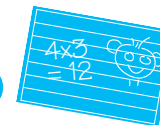
Wildwood Trust chief executive Peter Smith said: "It is wonderful for Wildwood to be recognised in such a report. Wildwood's volun-

teers, members and staff are making a huge contribution to help our most endangered creatures.

"The report highlights in particular the excellent efforts of our conservation team, led by senior conservation officer Hazel Ryan, in rescuing and reintroducing water voles – Britain's most endangered animal. Since we became a charity

eight years ago we have put in a huge amount of effort, making Wildwood the most successful wildlife education centre in Kent.

"We employ an outstanding team and have developed award-winning wildlife education programmes that stimulate fun and learning for children across the county."



BREAK TIME

Kayleigh's special ticket to Microsoft

A BUSINESS studies tutor from Maidstone has been swatting up on her technological teaching skills after being handed a ticket to the Microsoft UK Headquarters.



Kayleigh Kent, pictured, who teaches at the New Line Learning Centre, was one of just 15 tutors in the UK to be trained on the company's most up to date educational technology.

The two-day summer camp at the Thames Valley Park in Reading, Berkshire, allowed Kayleigh to use Microsoft's free software to create her own teaching and learning resources for the classroom.

Kayleigh couldn't quite pick the brains of owner Bill Gates, but she did have access to the technology experts to help her design and evaluate her inventions.

Delighted at securing her place on the once in a lifetime trip, speaking before the course, Kayleigh said: "This is simply an amazing opportunity to share knowledge, innovations and experience with other creative teachers."

"I'm looking forward to bringing exciting new ideas back to New Line Learning, ideas that will help our pupils to learn more, and enjoy their learning."

The course ran on Monday and Tuesday. Kayleigh has now achieved Microsoft Innovative Teacher status and joins a select group of educators as part of the UK Partners in Learning Network.

See <http://blogs.msdn.com/b/teachers/archive/2010/07/01/summer-camp-2010-teachers-learning-from-teachers.aspx> for more information.



SOUNDS GOOD: Sixth formers at Cornwallis Academy signed up a range of local talent while helping to co-ordinate the recent Jam in the Park event in Brnecley Gardens

Youngsters tune into good music for Jam in the Park

■ BY JOE BILL

SUMMERTIME means festivals and Maidstone town centre was the latest host of some live music but with a slight twist.

Sixth form pupils from Cornwallis Academy were tasked with putting together the mini festival by selecting talent from Kent as well as helping co-ordinate the Jam in the Park event.

At the start of August, 10 acts performed 30 minute sets for free at the Brencley Gardens Park and lots of friends, families and onlookers stayed all day to take in the fun in the sun.

The talent ranged from solo artists to acoustic sets and heavy rock, including the bands White Bone Rattle, Dethrone Exodus,

As Worlds Collide, Audio Karma, Silver Foxes, Stacey and the Freeloaders, Kaleidophone, The Antics, Hands Shaped Like Hearts and Fred Clark.

Communications manager from Cornwallis Academy, Moira Mitchell, who helped market the festival, said: "All of the acts were brilliant and many of them performed with real energy and got the crowds going. Thankfully the weather held out for us too and everyone attending seemed to really enjoy the music and the atmosphere in the park."

Jam in the Park is a free annual event put

together by Maidstone Town Centre Management and after the success of this year, will continue to be organised with the help of sixth form students from Cornwallis Academy.

Town Centre Manager, Bill Moss, added: "This was another excellent afternoon of free entertainment for Maidstone."

"Students from Cornwallis Academy accepted the challenge from Town Centre Management to find the best youth bands on the local scene and delivered a lively, fun-packed concert that proved a hit with everybody who attended. My thanks and congratulations to them for a job well done."

To see more of the event photos you can search the event on social networking sites, Facebook, Myspace and Twitter.

SEND your schools news and pictures to yourmaidstone@kosmedia.co.uk. You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk






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Failing the victims of sexual assault

RAPE victims being examined just hours after an attack are being subjected to "sub-standard" conditions, according to a forensic medical examiner.

In many cases, women are examined in old-style police houses by male doctors who have little or no experience in gynaecology.

Dr Lucy Love, associate specialist in sexual health and a forensic medical examiner for Kent Police, said facilities in Kent are "sadly lacking".

"There is one Sexual Assault Referral Centre [SARC] in Kent at Dartford, although it's more like a service," she said. "It doesn't have some of the elements required to make it a SARC. We failed an assessment 15 months ago showing we didn't have all the essentials."

SARCs are clinics for the immediate aftermath of a sexual assault, providing medical care and forensic examination, counselling and sexual health services. According to Dr Love, the Kent facility has no crisis workers to support victims when they come in for examinations, with only a PC present. And in more shocking cases, old-style police houses used for such procedures are found uncleaned and without crucial equipment.

"There are no aftercare treatments such as the morning-after pill or antibiotics in the police houses," said Dr Love.

"Luckily, some GPs doing an examination will have the morning-after pill and other equipment with them, but there is no support literature for victims.

"I've been to some police houses which look like they haven't even been cleaned – it's shocking and needs to be addressed."

In west Kent there are six doc-

■ BY MARIJKE COX

tors on call to carry out examinations – four men and two women – with similar staffing for east Kent. Dr Love is calling on the Government to prioritise the need for an adequate service.

The Department of Health and the Home Office are aiming to have a SARC in every police area by 2011.

Dr Love said: "Because we have a service we may be overlooked, but the clinic here needs to be improved – it's sub-standard."

SARCS are part funded by the police but the Government is looking to transfer the budget and commissioning responsibility to the NHS. Primary care trusts are expected to work with local partners to ensure properly-resourced SARCS are in place.

A Department of Health official said: "We support all actions that improve the NHS response to violence against women and children. Further funding is being invested this year to support SARCS in developing care to meet minimum service standards."

A spokeswoman from Kent Police said there were four female police doctors working for the force and that the specialist clinic at Darent Valley Hospital offers much-needed support to victims.

She said the force was looking to deliver similar services in east Kent, where at the moment there are just specialist victim suites.

BRITAIN'S first wind turbine to be built on land owned by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has gone up in Kent.

Energy firm E.ON chose the Duke of York's Royal Military School in Dover for the project, which will help the MoD meet its environmental and energy targets. The school, which educates the children of serving military personnel, is a member of the Eco Schools

Wind of change at MoD school

programme. Michael Woodhead of E.ON said: "As well as the financial benefits, the turbine will be used in

lessons, helping students and staff learn about carbon reduction and renewable energy. We all need to do our bit to tackle climate change."

The turbine has three blades and stands 15 metres high.

It is connected through the estates office, where real-time data is collected and can be accessed via the school's intranet.



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Rare pair back in county

GOOD news for lovers of all things creepy-crawly – there are now two ultra-rare species back on Kent's map.

The Maid of Kent beetle was so scarce that experts believed it had become extinct in the country, while the rare spoonworm has been sighted again on the seabed off Hythe.

The beetle was found during a recent survey at the RSPB Elmley Marshes nature reserve, hiding beneath fresh cow pats.

Warden Gordon Allison said: "The site is a prime example of coastal grazing marsh. The presence of the Maid of Kent beetle at Elmley shows the benefits of good land management and how important it is for the protection of rare species found nowhere else. As well as being a great rarity in UK terms, it's a pretty smart looking insect. Most people would imagine beetles to be dull things, but the Maid of Kent is like a cross between a bumblebee and a beetle.

"It can land in fresh cow pats, burrow through them and emerge clean as a whistle on the other side."

The Maid of Kent was put on the endangered list almost a quarter of a century ago because



RETURN: Maid of Kent beetle

it hadn't been seen in the UK since 1966, and not in Kent since the 1950s. Meanwhile, Environment Agency divers have found spoonworms off Hythe, hundreds of miles from their usual habitat in the Scottish lochs.

The survey was sponsored by the Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre, with the worms found living in St Mary's Bay.

Records show spoonworms were last found in the area about 25 years ago and after their rediscovery the site could now be put forward for special protection. Tom Reid, technical specialist for the EA, said: "Spoonworms in the Channel shows there is a new habitat type that has never been described before. The area can now be considered for protection."

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your letters



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YOUR LETTERS

Celebrations as KIG rejected



KIG rejection sends out a clear message

Now we have had chance to digest the Secretary of State's decision and the Inspector's Report, it is clear that this is a knockout blow for KIG.

This is a resounding success, not just for Protect Kent, but also for the many thousands of individual residents who saw this as an ill thought out and purely speculative proposal.

The public inquiry cost Maidstone Borough Council £1 million, and has caused upset, anger and anxiety to thousands of people for over three years.

AXA should be thoroughly ashamed that they tried to impose such a proposal on such an attractive area of countryside and its local communities.

I hope this decision will send out a strong message to others who might be thinking about putting forward similar proposals, especially those promoting land at Borough Green. This decision has made it even more difficult for rival schemes and has put environmental issues at the heart of any future considerations.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to those residents of Bearsted who not only made their views known, but who took the trouble to attend every session of the inquiry.

There is no doubt that the Inspector was impressed with this commitment.

I would also like to pay tribute to the Stop KIG team and the Joint Parishes Group for all their efforts in fighting this application.

Richard Knox-Johnston,
chairman of Protect Kent

As usual – Wright's on the wrong track

I am slightly alarmed by your blogger Gary Wright (August 4).

First of all, he points out that cycling while drunk is "not illegal", despite having previously stated that a person risks being fined for doing so on a road. Then he says that "part" of him (only a part?) wants cyclists off the road.

As a pedestrian, may I point out that I do not want cyclists, whether drunk or sober, on pavements.

I hope that is not what he was hinting at.

Secondly, given Mr Wright's sneering scorn towards overweight people (another of his insightful

your blogger

BJ Tritton wonders if his generation can ever be forgiven for such a toxic financial legacy



"A YOUNG man who isn't a socialist hasn't got a heart. An old man who is a socialist hasn't got a head."

So said David Lloyd George. And now we ageing baby boomers are getting the blame for leaving the younger generation to pay for our supposed profligacy.

I cannot help but feel this is a distortion. All my life I have defended the welfare state, supported the NHS, had doubts about the free market and felt concern about the economics of home ownership – to name but a few beliefs which could be labeled "socialist".

As a young man, I believed hunger, poverty and inequality could be eradicated. I was aware that for this to happen, especially on a worldwide basis, my own circumstances would be reduced. I was prepared for that, believing quality of life had little to do with the sybaritic standards developing in our society.

I voted for these things, campaigned for these things, made my feelings known – often to disapprobation, if not ridicule, from my peers. Not all of them; there were many who felt the same way. But nothing happened. The inequalities and economic absurdities continued.

My wife and I gave up good jobs and moved to rural Wales, eking out a living in tourism and agriculture, believing there was a possibility capitalism would collapse. Still nothing happened. Despite recession in the early 1970s, society recovered and began to rebuild the house of cards again. Then something happened to me.

The heart began to lose its influence and the head took precedence. By now we had three sons. I realised it was not my place to inflict upon them a lower stan-

dard of living, but to give them all the advantages I could. If they later chose to deny materialism, that had to be their decision, not mine.

I went back to the rat race, played the property game, took financial risks. Am I partly to blame for the imminent collapse of the welfare state? For the debt we are foisting on the younger generation? Of course I am.

Every individual has a responsibility for the society in which they live. But to blame a whole generation for taking advantage of a situation into which we were actively encouraged is absurd. We did it for our children. We are still doing it for our children. Baby boomers are acting as unpaid child minders, subsidising middle-aged children with families, still supporting the generation we are accused of abandoning.

Yes, I fear for the future. I grew up with a welfare state and the NHS. To see it withering away frightens me for the sake of coming generations. I am equally concerned that essential aspects of society are threatened while unnecessary and immoral elements such as Trident renewal seem to survive.

As an individual – and there are many like me – I am more than prepared, for the sake of the generations we are accused of abandoning to an insecure future, to pay more taxes to support a welfare state.

Not, I think, an attitude of a greedy, inconsiderate, parasitic baby boomer. To take from those who can afford it is a better road than to cut services to those who need them. As to those coming generations to whom we are leaving such a poisoned legacy; I admit to my part. Now take your part. Hopefully, you can make a better job of it than we did.

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Simon Robinson**, on 01303 817185 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Maidstone blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourmaidstone.co.uk.

blogs), I would have thought he would be all in favour of cycling as it presumably burns more calories than driving.

Thirdly, any well-intentioned advice that might reduce the number of road accidents (and the ensuing costs to the NHS) is fine by me.

On a separate topic, I am unimpressed by Malcolm Gilbert's attitude to smoking cessation schemes. It's all very well for him to dismiss smoking as a "lifestyle choice". I am very glad not to have made it one of my choices.

However, I wonder if Mr Gilbert can truthfully say that people who are raped or sexually abused never turn to cigarettes or other addictive substances or behaviours as coping mechanisms? I suspect not.

Katharine A Gilchrist, by email

Celebrate nursing care with nice walk

As a Local Marie Curie Nurse, I am inviting local walkers to make the most of the great British summer evenings by taking part in a fabulous evening of sunset strolling, picnicking and entertainment.

We have two walks taking place at Richmond Park, London on Saturday, August 21 and in Beaulieu, Hampshire on Saturday, September 4.

Walk Ten is a series of unique twilight 10k walks, taking place at stunning locations around the UK this summer – many of which are usually closed to the

public during the evenings.

Walk Ten, is supported by HomeServe, and will help to fund more nursing care for terminally ill patients in Kent.

The walk aims to attract around 500 people which will begin at 6pm with a 10k walk around your chosen location.

After the walk finishes there will be time to settle down with a picnic and enjoy the entertainment, before gathering at 10pm to celebrate that Marie Curie Nurse's all around the UK are beginning their overnight shifts in patient's homes.

For more information about your nearest Walk Ten go to www.mariecurie.org.uk/walkten or call 08700 340 040.

Franky Henley

Quarry warning one that needs heeding

With the school holidays in full flow, young people will be looking for excitement and places to hang out with their friends.

I would like to appeal to parents in your area to ensure that their youngsters are not tempted to enter into local quarries uninvited.

Over the past two years, six young people have died through falls or drowning at the sites of former mineral workings.

While some hazards are obvious, others are less so.

The water in quarries can, for example, be icy cold and deep with unexpected currents and obstacles

hidden beneath the water. Quarry edges can be unstable. Caves dug into sand stockpiles can collapse on you.

As part of our annual campaign, the Mineral Products Association has launched a Facebook page – Stay Safe... Stay Out of Quarries – which highlights not just what can happen if you venture into a quarry without permission, but also the huge impact the death of a young person in a quarry accident has on their friends and families.

The video is about the deaths of Jay Harris and Ryan Walker, two teenagers who died in quarry accidents last year.

We also have a YouTube video under the same title.

They are resources we hope parents and other members of the community will use to help deliver our warning.

So our message is please Stay Safe... Stay Out of quarries.

Elizabeth Clements,
Mineral Products Association

Volunteers needed to keep up good work

Kent Equality Cohesion Council came into being in April – previously we were called the North West Kent Racial Equality Council.

The change in name reflects how our work has evolved over the years.

Over time we started to push back the boundaries and evolve our work.

In Kent, we have worked hard with limited resources to ensure

all sections of the community are engaged and have an opportunity to participate.

Our work covers many areas of the county including organising three major festivals – known as melas – in Dartford, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells.

In addition to our work through the arts to promote cohesion, we also organise – in partnership with community groups – events to promote understanding and to discuss issues.

There is a real danger, though, in the current economic climate, as spending cuts take hold, that the work we and other charities around the county do will be under threat.

This year already we have had to make staffing cuts and cut budgets back so drastically that there is nothing left to cut.

We are relying more on volunteers than ever before and seem to be working so hard just to survive.

The long-term consequence of this is that organisations such as ours will fold and the work will just stop.

Building up community cohesion and good relations doesn't just happen by accident, it involves building effective partnerships between the community and statutory sector and most importantly time, commitment and community buy in.

Gurvinder Sandher, director of the
Kent Equality Cohesion Council

Working to stop cycle of our jobless families

Nearly one in eight children living in the South East are growing up in a home where no one has a job.

Alarming, this equates to 176,000 youngsters who, according to a new report from The Prince's Trust and Qa Research, are significantly more likely to struggle when it comes to finding work.

For many growing up in workless families, it is 'normal' not to have a job, not to go to work and earn a steady wage.

Many lack confidence yet we know that they want to work. In the South East, eight in ten say that finding a good job is their main priority for the future.

Qa Research has found that young people across the region are facing a cycle of worklessness and many can't see a way out.

It is an absolute tragedy to think that so many feel condemned to a life on benefits when they are capable of so much more.

More worryingly, they are likely to be driven further from the jobs market, as they struggle to compete with the post-recession backlog of unemployed graduates.

It is organisations like The Prince's Trust, working with local councils, businesses and individuals, that are key to helping young people into jobs. Only by giving them skills, confidence and positive role models can we help them escape unemployment for good.

If we fail to stop these disadvantaged young people becoming disadvantaged adults, this cycle will continue to blight these families for generations to come.

Rosemary Watt-Wynnes, South East
regional director, The Prince's Trust



ON SONG: Former Spandau Ballet lead singer Tony Hadley was amongst the stars taking part last year

Star-studded day on course to top £2m for charity

■ BY ROSANNA TENNANT

COMEDIAN Dave Lee is hitting the golf course with a host of celebrities to help raise funds to send disabled, underprivileged and terminally ill children on holiday.

The event will bring together avid golfers and stars of stage and screen to battle it out for the title of champion, while raising money for Dave Lee's Happy Holidays.

Last year, Spandau Ballet frontman Tony Hadley and ex-footballer Neil Ruddock were among the 30 celebrities involved and around £25,000 was raised.

The aim is to raise hopefully more this year. Celebrities expected to attend include comedians Jim Davidson, Bradley Walsh, Joe Pasquale, TV presenter Stephen Mulhern, ex EastEnders' stars Emma Barton and Shaun Williamson, plus from the world of sport Tottenham manager Harry Redknapp and former boxing world champ Barry McGuigan.

For Dave, from Herne, near Canterbury, this year's golf day is even more significant, with the charity close to reaching the £2 million mark in money raised since it started in 1994.

"Everybody would be so pleased if we reached

this target," said Dave. "The charity is run by volunteers – nobody is paid – with all money raised going towards holidays for disabled, underprivileged and terminally ill children from Kent.

"We've got five holiday homes at Camber Sands and we've sent more than 45,000 children and their families on holidays."

Trips have included Tenerife, Disneyland Paris and Disney World in Florida.

Some 1,200 children are also sent to see a Christmas pantomime. This year's Marlowe Theatre panto will be Robin Hood and Dave will be starring as Nurse Nelly, nurse maid to Maid Marion.

Auction

The KOS Media sponsored charity golf is on Sunday, September 5, at Chart Hills golf club in Biddenden.

A charity dinner in the evening, which last year saw 350 guests, will include a cabaret act from Bobby Davro, music from Chas Hodges – formerly of Chas and Dave – and his band, plus an auction.

For visitors, the gates open at 10am and



RAISE A SMILE: Dave Lee's charity hopes to hit £2m mark

admission is £5 (children free). There will be free parking, a bar and on course catering. The event organisers are expecting between 2,000 and 12,000 people.

Teams of three are being encouraged to sign up to play, with a celebrity picked to play with them. The cost is £700, including 18 holes of golf on the Nick Faldo designed course, breakfast, pre-dinner drinks and a four-course meal.

Those wanting to come only to the dinner can pay £85 (per head?)

It looks set to be a great day out for all the family, with autograph opportunities and the chance to chat with celebrities so don't forget your camera.

To sign up, call Mr Aylward on 01732 456505 or 07834 468664 or email daveleehappyholidays@tiscali.co.uk.

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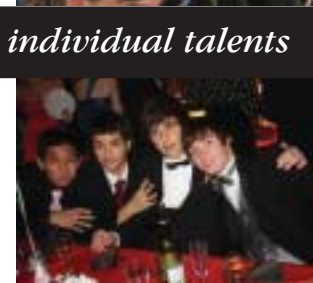
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DAY & NIGHT

Chance to tread boards

ASPIRING actors are invited to take part in the next production at Medway Little Theatre in Rochester.

Director Gwen Whippy is seeking five newcomers to play roles of both genders and various ages in *Hobson's Choice*, from October 5 to 16.

Call Gwen for an audition on 01634 371570 or email adgp@blueyonder.co.uk.

Walking for charity

WALKERS are invited to help support local charity CLIC Sargent.

Chatham Rotary Club is holding a sponsored 7.75-mile walk in aid of the good cause on Sunday, starting from Dockside Outlet Centre in Chatham.

To download a sponsorship form visit www.docksideshopping.co.uk or go to www.chathamrotary.org.uk.

Angels' designs on litter

THE Litter Angels workshops continue at the Polka Dot Art Centre this week with the theme of pots and masks.

In next Wednesday's final session, visitors will make creatures out of rubbish.

The workshops for seven to 15-year-olds run from 10.30am to 12.30pm and cost £5. For details call 01795 521167 or visit www.polkadotac.co.uk.

Back to the Fifties

ROCK and roll the night away when Ricky Fontayne performs in Sheerness.

The 50s and 60s tribute artist will be at Sheerness Holiday Park in Halfway Road at 8.45pm on Friday. For details about the venue call 0845 815 9761.

More information about Ricky can be found online at www.rickyfontayne.com.

Find Holy Grail at castle

ENJOY a comedy classic in the great outdoors when Leeds Castle hosts open-air cinema this weekend.

Monty Python and the Holy Grail will be shown on a big screen at the castle near Maidstone on Saturday. Tickets cost £10 plus a £2.50 booking fee. To book call 01622 880008 or visit www.leeds-castle.com.

Soul singer at store

SINGER Dionne Bromfield will be performing songs from her debut album at Bluewater on Thursday.

Bromfield is the goddaughter of fellow singer Amy Winehouse and she will be demonstrating her great soul voice at the new Juicy Couture store from 3pm to 6pm.

She will sing two songs and will also sign autographs for her fans.

Space chimps on screen

SEE more adventures of Comet the techno chimp when *Space Chimps 2* is shown in Chatham.

Space Chimps 2 (cert U) will be shown at the Central Theatre from Friday to next Thursday. Tickets are priced from £3.50 to £4.25.

To book call 01634 338338 or go online at www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebookings.

Music, laughter and panto fun

NEW SEASON

Various dates
Hazlitt Arts Centre, Maidstone

WHETHER you are looking for big laughs or big tunes, the Hazlitt's autumn and winter season has plenty to offer.

Anyone who feels the seasonal blues once summer fades away should take a look at the new programme, which features huge names in the fields of comedy, music, theatre and dance.

Find out about the colourful life of comedian Alexei Sayle in September when he presents *Stalin Ate My Homework: A Memoir*. Sayle looks back at his upbringing as a son of Communist parents and his childhood in Eastern Europe, exploring the confusion it created and how he became a teenage Maoist.

More big characters are lined up for the new season, including former MP Gyles Brandreth. Having been a government whip, actor, author and BBC One Show reporter, Brandreth is now turning his famous wit to the art of stand-up and he will be entertaining a Maidstone audience with his *One-to-One Show* in February.

Also on the comedy line-up are comic magician Peter Firmin, family show *Monster High* and regular stand-up nights in the Exchange Studio.

The Vienna Festival Ballet returns to perform *Sleeping Beauty* in November, which will be an unmissable highlight for any ballet fan. Celebrating 30 years in the dance business, the company presents an elegant and captivating production of this much-loved fairytale, set to Tchaikovsky's beautiful music.

Four local schools will stage some of the Bard's timeless work as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival in October, before a legendary fictional detective takes to the stage later that month.

Robert Llewellyn brings Sherlock Holmes to life in intriguing style as the master sleuth delves into his most mysterious case yet – the matter of his own psyche. Blending humour and wit with drama and pathos, this acclaimed production takes a closer look at one of fiction's most fascinating heroes.

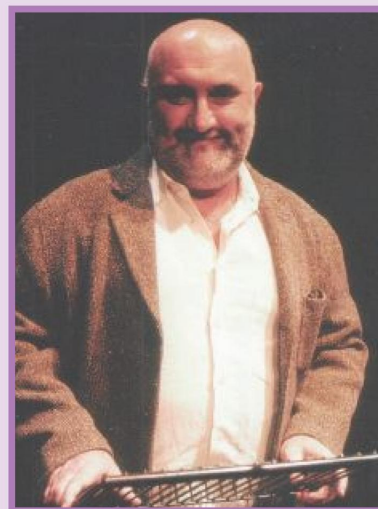
Enter a world of chilling world of repression and cowardice in November, when *The Crucible* is staged at the Hazlitt Theatre. Arthur Miller's masterpiece explores one of humanity's darkest hours as it tells the story of the 17th century witch hunts that devastated a community in Salem, Massachusetts.

West End and television star Claire Sweeney will be appearing in Andrew Lloyd Webber and Don Black's musical, *Tell Me On a Sunday*. Musical fans have a rare chance to see this definite version in September, along with an exclusive new song, *I Still Believe in Love*.

Sweeney stars as an English girl looking for



STAR LINE-UP: Clockwise, from above: Gyles Brandreth, Claire Sweeney and Alexei Sayle will all be appearing at the Hazlitt Arts Centre this season



love in New York, but discovering she might be looking in all the wrong places.

The music programme includes performances by local acoustic act Fred Clark, the Blues Band, Marty Wilde and the Wildcats, the Bon Jovi Experience and acclaimed Eagles tribute act, Talon. Fans of Chas 'n' Dave are in for a treat when Chas pays a visit, along with his band, for the Rock Rabbit and Roll Tour.

This year's pantomime will be *Beauty and the Beast*. EastEnders star Melissa Suffield will take a break from Albert Square to appear in the magical tale, alongside former *Emmerdale* actor Ben Freeman.

For full listings and booking information, visit www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk. Tickets can be booked online or by calling the box office on 01622 758611.





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"We believe that our business is a combination of people and image. Our customers are discerning, and mutual respect between client and stylist is very important."

To determine which treatment from its extensive range is right for each client, the trendy salon offers a free one-to-one consultation with a professional stylist.



Mr Williams added: "We are a modern, passionate hair salon offering full hair services for all types of hair, through colours, haircuts and shapes, we tailor it to people's needs, face shapes and lifestyles.

"We never stop listening to what clients want from us and we are not frightened to change."

Annette's Complete Hair Care was opened in Station Road in 2008 and now claims to be one of the largest salons in the Medway area.

Its popularity could be down to its use of only high-end products for its hair and beauty departments, including brands Bumble and Bumble, Raccoon extensions and WAM.

The salon is open between 10am and 6pm Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm on Saturday and on selected Sundays. Contact the salon for a list of prices and services.

Annette's Complete Hair Care, 94 Station Road, Rainham, ME8 7PJ. www.annettescompletehaircare.co.uk. Telephone: 01634 235222.



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PAUL DUNTON AND GUESTS

Thursday, August 19, Pizza Express, Maidstone

DISCOVER some of Kent's best musical talent when Paul Dunton brings his Guests to Maidstone once again.

The singer-songwriter's popular candlelit showcase has been entertaining audiences in Tunbridge Wells for years.

Thursday's headline act will be four-piece rock band Intraverse, pictured, performing stripped-down, acoustic versions of the songs that have impressed BBC Radio 1 DJs, Huw Stephens and Steve Lamacq.

Steve McCormack is considered one of the area's finest guitarists and his skills are much in

demand. This week the singer-songwriter performs with his Trio.

Aged just 17, Louise Orfila from Dover has already made a big noise on the local music scene. She has been writing songs since the age of 13 and her album is available on iTunes.

Completing the line-up is host Paul Dunton and his Crew, performing his brand of pop fused with classical influences.

The show starts at 8pm and tickets, priced at £7, are available in advance by calling 0845 602 7017 or visit www.pizzaexpresslive.com.



KENT YOUTH DANCE COMPANY

Friday, August 20, Hazlitt Arts Centre, Maidstone

PROFESSIONAL dancers work with talented young people to create the latest production by Kent Youth Dance Company.

Now in its third year, the company offers the chance for gifted young dancers to receive coaching from three professionals. The experts then perform alongside the rising stars in a showcase of their collective talent, which embraces a wide variety of dance styles.

Many of the performers this year are from the Maidstone area and the resulting show is a testament to their talent, along with the dedication of the profes-

sional dancers who give their time to help with the project. The young dancers can experience being part of a dance company for two weeks and give two performances.

With the title Excerpts and Originals 3, this year's show features dance from Snow White the Ballet, Footloose and Swing Time, along with other entertaining routines.

The performance starts at 7pm and tickets cost £11 for adults and £9 for children. To book call the box office on 01622 758611 or visit the website at www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk.



RIVERFORD TRAVELLING FIELD KITCHEN

Thursday, August 19, to Sunday, August 29, Mole End Farm, Maidstone

RIVERFORD will be serving up a taste of nature when the company's Travelling Field Kitchen visits Maidstone.

Based on the award-winning restaurant in Devon, the mobile gastronomic experience aims to give people a seasonal delight by serving up lunches and suppers. Consumers across Kent already enjoy fresh vegetables, thanks to Riverford's award-winning organic vegbox scheme and this is a chance to taste those ingredients in use.

Visiting the restaurant in a yurt will also give people the chance to see local produce being grown at Mole End Farm, where a variety of fruits such as apples, pears and plums can be found.

The Travelling Field Kitchen produces dishes such as braised artichokes with broad beans and mint, Swiss chard and anchovy gratin and new potatoes, followed by rhubarb and strawberry crumble, summer berry pavlova or apricot and almond tart.

Two-course lunches are £17.50, or £22.50 for three-course suppers. Call 01803 762062 or visit www.riverford.co.uk/homefarm.



DATE WITH NATURE

Running until Tuesday, August 31, Leeds Castle, near Maidstone

TAKE your family on a date with nature as Leeds Castle plays host to a world of wildlife.

Visitors to the 12th century castle have the chance to learn more about the lives of Kent's water birds, at a viewing area set up by the RSPB. Following a successful breeding season, the lakes are full of life as chicks venture out of the nest to spread their wings in the big wide world.

Visitors can see great crested grebes, moorhens and coots teaching their youngsters how to use their water wings this month.

The RSPB viewing area is equipped with telescopes and binoculars to help people get a closer look, while staff and volunteers are on hand to explain more about the castle's wildlife.

"This is a busy time of year with all the young birds on the water," said James McComiskey, Date with Nature officer.

"The parents are being kept busy trying to keep an eye on their young and teaching them to be independent. You'll be able to watch them practising their feeding and flying skills."

For details visit www.rspb.org.uk/datewithnature.



ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN

Saturday, August 28, Orchard Theatre, Dartford

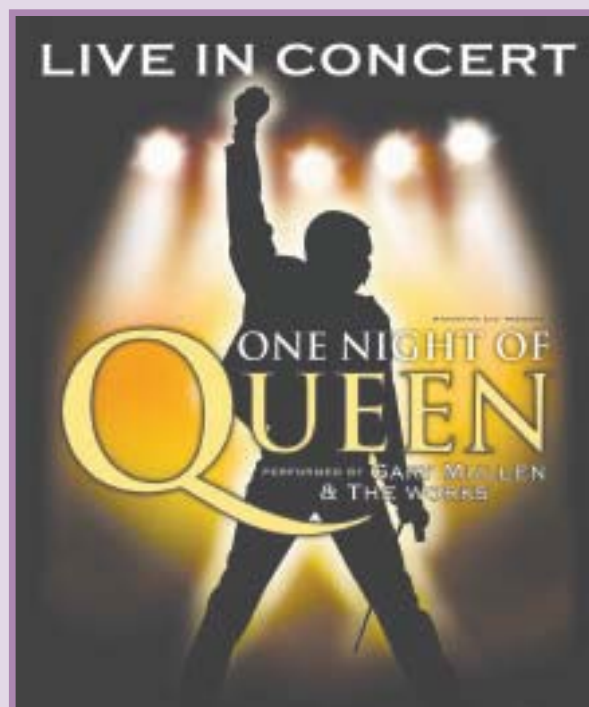
SPEND one night in the company of a music icon when top tribute artist Gary Mullen visits Kent.

Along with his band, The Works, Mullen brings the spirit of Freddie Mercury back to the life stage in the popular tribute show, One Night of Queen. With this homage to one of the greatest ever showmen and a much-loved rock band, fans can enjoy the timeless songs played live once again and hear an uncanny impersonation of Mercury's unforgettable voice.

Mullen shot to fame when he appeared on the ITV talent show, Stars in Their Eyes, in 2000. The Scottish karaoke fan won the series with a landslide victory when he polled nearly 865,000 votes and his life changed overnight. Since then, the former computer salesman has travelled the world with this celebration of Queen's music.

Featuring such hits as We Will Rock You, Bohemian Rhapsody, We Are the Champions and Radio Ga Ga, the show will rock Queen fans for one night only.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £19.50/£17.50. Book online at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01322 220000.



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WIN! An exclusive VIP package for you and your friend with hedkandi



TO CELEBRATE Hed Kandi's fashion launch and the opening of its first store at Bluewater, Kent, on Thursday, August 19, Hed Kandi is offering the chance to win an exclusive VIP experience for a reader and their best friend!

The prize includes:

- The ultimate Hed Kandi Fashion outfit of your choice for you and your friend
- Hair, make-up and nails by top Hed Kandi professionals
- You and your friend strut your stuff in the Hed Kandi fashion show at Bluewater on Saturday, August 21
- A professional photographer will capture your catwalk moment
- Leave with a bag of fabulous Hed Kandi goodies

To enter this money-can't-buy competition, please answer the following question: Hed Kandi is famous for its glamorous club nights across the globe. Which club in Ibiza is it at this summer?

- A: Space
B: Pacha
C: Es Paradis

Please send your answer on a postcard with your contact number to: Hed Kandi Competition, Ministry of Sound, 103 Gaunt Street, London SE1 6DP, or via email to: hedkandicompetition@hedkandi.com. The closing date is Friday, August 20.

The winner will be contacted on the number provided on Friday, August 20, and must be available on Saturday, August 21.

No purchase necessary. For our full Terms and Conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature, please write 'no literature' on your entry.

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Airbender fails to come out on top in battle for our hearts and minds

■ BY DAMON SMITH

MIGHT Shyamalan is an odd choice to direct a special effects-laden adventure based on the popular Nickelodeon animated TV series, *Avatar: The Last Airbender*.

After all, this is the filmmaker who allowed us all to see dead people in *The Sixth Sense*, created a modern day superhero in *Unbreakable* and allowed an enraged Mother Nature to slaughter most of mankind in *The Happening*.

The *Last Airbender* is a very different beast: a big budget journey of discovery, punctuated by sprawling battle sequences on a similarly grand scale to *The Lord Of The Rings* trilogy, that relies heavily on spectacle rather than substance or Shyamalan's famed narrative twists.

The writer-director juggles the myriad technical elements, but he is occasionally let down by unconvincing digital effects that look more like a cartoon than live action.

Moreover, some of the performances are more wooden than the gargantuan sets, creating repeated moments of unintentional hilarity that cuts through the dramatic tension.

The worst offender is a seemingly innocuous line from a village elder about her young charge being "the last bender" for miles.

Orphaned siblings Sokka (Jackson Rathbone) and Katara (Nicola Peltz) discover a young boy called Aang (Noah Ringer) frozen in the ice near their village.

The tyke is covered in strange tattoos and the siblings surmise that Aang must be the Avatar, destined to manipulate the four elements (air, water, earth, fire).

No sooner have the children arrived back at their village than outcast Prince Zuko (Dev Patel) from the Fire Nation and his soldiers capture Aang and hold him hostage aboard their ship. Thankfully, the prisoner escapes and begins the journey back to his temple, accompanied by Sokka and Katara.



Picture: PA Photo/Panorama

TATTOED STRANGER: Noah Ringer as Aang, the Avatar who faces the tough task of stopping the Fire Nation enslaving the Water, Air and Earth Nations

Meanwhile, Zuko's father Fire Lord Ozai (Cliff Curtis) entreats trusted Commander Zhao (Asif Mandvi) to find Aang, and prevent the boy from achieving his destiny.

The *Last Airbender* screens in 3D in select cinemas, but the increasingly popular format was an afterthought, so don't bother paying the additional ticket prices for the honour of wearing uncomfortable plastic spectacles.

A caption card at the beginning reads Book

One: Water and it quickly becomes clear that this is the first film in a potential series.

It's hard to imagine subsequent chapters ever making it to the big screen.

Ringer is a likeable hero, struggling to comprehend his pre-ordained path, and Patel wrings as much pathos as possible from his underwritten role as the exiled prodigal son.

Watery special effects aren't convincing, and a pivotal scene in which one character sacri-

fices their life for the good of mankind fails to bring a tear to the eye.

"[Aang] will begin to win hearts because it's in hearts that all wars are won," says one sage.

Regrettably, in the battle for our hearts and minds, Shyamalan comes up short.

THE LAST AIRBENDER 
Certificate PG



CHALLENGE: Amish teenagers are thrown in at the deep end of British culture



YOUR TV REVIEW AMISH: WORLD'S SQUAREST TEENAGERS: Channel 4, 8pm, Sunday

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

WHEN a television programme puts God-fearing Amish teenagers with their British counterparts to experience the extremes of our society, we know we can expect tantrums, shouting and denunciations.

But watching *'Amish: World's Squarest Teenagers'* that is precisely not what we get.

Channel 4's latest reality television offering went for the usual inflammatory mix of people who really should never meet.

In this case, the cast was barn-raising, electricity-shunning Christians and a parade of Britain's finest ghetto kids, festival-goers and tossers.

The programme was interspersed with bible-readings from an Amish elder, showing the Good Book disproving of the English teenagers' wild and wicked ways.

But instead of Wife Swap-style

recriminations, there was something absolutely wonderful about watching these quiet, calm, thoughtful youngsters learning about how we live.

Instead of telling everyone they are damned to a fiery afterlife, the five Amish youngsters, who had never drunk, smoked, heard rock music or encountered crime before, learned incredibly touching lessons from their British counterparts.

When welcomed on to a London estate by a family and shown stabbing sites and urban dancing, the three boys and two girls wonder at the warmth they are shown. They even accept provocative dancing may actually be a good thing if it keeps teenagers off the streets.

During the weekly show we got to

see the amazement on the teenagers' faces when they saw the sea for the first time, share one of the girls' joy when she danced for the first time, and watch when the Christians joined a choir to pay tribute to a 14-year-old who has been stabbed.

The Americans also relaxed their strict rules to paint, go shopping and play the guitar.

And the English vagabonds learned lessons too. The inner-city kids were trashed at rounders by the active Americans, and the festival-loving girls were provoked into deep thought about the way they dress.

The episodes were not without tensions, troubles and tears, but the individuals gave a refreshing break from the usual shouting matches.

This series was the true social experiment the reality TV genre had been lacking for years.

Reader Holidays

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Friday 5 to 8 Nov 2010 Tour NG11-2

Norton Grange, the friendly Warner Resort on the seafront at Yarmouth, on the Isle of Wight, is ideal for our fun-filled Christmas Party - for over 40s only - featuring cabaret and variety entertainment, good food, great entertainment and a Free Bar every day - perfect for a pre-Christmas get together.

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- **FREE Bar** from 15.30hrs to 23:00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped

soft drinks & mixers, wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.

- Full programme of variety entertainment and activities
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded en-suite chalet - upgrades available - Standard Plus £219pp - Premier £229pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna, jacuzzi
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry - min 2 per car



Free Car Ferry | Over 40s Only | Free Bar

Mamma Mia Christmas Party at Warner Bembridge Coast 3 Nights from only £259pp

Friday 12 to 15 Nov 2010
Tour MM11 Last Few Places!

Price includes:

- **FREE Drinks**
- Variety Entertainment & Activities programme including Abba Tribute Band & Mamma Mia movie screening
- Fireworks display
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights sharing an en-suite Ambassador room - upgrades available
- Sea-view Room - £274pp
- Signature Room - £304pp
- Royale Room - £319pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included - min 2 people per car



Come Dancing Party at Warner Bembridge 3 Nights from only £259pp

Friday 14 to 17 Jan 2011 Tour MB1

Our Bembridge Dance breaks were a sell-out in 2009 and 2010 so we're doing it all again in 2011. There will be Ballroom and Latin dancing, tuition for beginners and improvers, top dancers in cabaret and a Grand Ball & variety entertainment. And with an 8,860sq ft dance floor, you won't be short of space. There's plenty going on for non-dancers, and, there's Free Drinks too.

Price includes:

- **FREE Drinks**
- Nightly entertainment & dancing
- 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded Ambassador room - upgrades available
- Sea-view Room £274pp
- Signature Room - £304pp
- Royale Room - £319pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna,
- **Travel:** Self drive including car ferry - min 2 people per car

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Carry on New Year Party at Warner Sinah Warren 3 Nights from only £229pp

Friday 7 to 10 Jan 2011 Tour WS

Here's an opportunity - for over 40s only - to extend the New Year celebrations at Sinah Warren, Warner's luxury hotel on Hayling Island. There'll be live entertainment every evening and, to help the party go with a swing, there's Free Drinks too.

Price includes:

- **FREE drinks** from 15.30hrs to 23:00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped

soft drinks & mixers, house wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.

- Full programme of entertainment & activities
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded Ambassador room - upgrades available - Sea-view Room £244pp Signature Room £274pp - Royal Room £289pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool & sauna pool
- **Travel:** Self drive



Over 40s Only | Free Bar

Michael Jackson Party at Warner Bembridge 3 Nights from only £239pp

Friday 25 to 28 Feb 2011 Tour MB2

Join us for a Fabulous Michael Jackson Party on the Isle of Wight Warner's Bembridge Coast Hotel will resound to the sights and sounds of the King of Pop as our fabulous party weekend includes nightly entertainment, a screening of the movie This Is It and a Michael Jackson tribute act featuring the songs of the Jackson Five as well as Michael's biggest hits. There's also a Free Bar.

Price includes:

- **FREE Drinks**
- Nightly entertainment
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights sharing an Ambassador room - upgrades available
- Seaview Room £254pp
- Signature Room - £284pp
- Royale Room - £299pp
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included - min 2 people



Bembridge Coast Hotel

A super, modern hotel set on a glorious part of the east coast of the Isle of Wight with great sea views of the Solent. There's plenty to do during the day as well as live entertainment every night. Have a cooked breakfast each morning, or choose from a range of lighter options. For dinner, help yourself to a full carvery or opt for an à la carte 3-course menu served to your table. Accommodation is in light and airy Ambassador rooms, which have an ensuite bathroom, TV with radio, complimentary toiletries, lounge chairs, tea and coffee making facilities, telephone and hairdryer - upgrades available.

- Our Party Breaks include a free bar from 3.30pm to 11pm Friday and 12 noon to 11pm Saturday & Sunday for house beers & spirits, house wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee. (*Mamma Mia Free Bar 6 to 11pm daily)



Call **01895 83 33 33** For more information quoting the tour code

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Intimate gig is a real must-see



MAKING IT BIG: Hadouken – 'grimey beats and a dollop of fluoro-pop sensibility'

SYNTH stars Hadouken are heading to Kent later this year as part of their 14-date UK tour.

The energetic fluorescent-loving five-piece, who take their name from a once-mindblowing move in the legendary Street Fighter game series – will perform at Ashford School's Brake Hall on Friday, October 29.

It's a must-see for all you grime/electro/rap crossover fans.

The Leeds-based outfit, who formed in 2006, have already built up a loyal fanbase across the UK and are on the verge of making it big, and they've got that Klaxons-esque multi-genre sound to thank for their success.

HMV described them as "a collision of grimey beats, razor-sharp lyrical dissection of nightlife and a whole dollop of fluoro-pop sensibility".

Add the catchiest of catchy beats and an infectioniously hyper and eager frontman in James Smith and you're half way to cap-

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

turing the full Hadouken effect.

The band's debut album, *Music For An Accelerated Culture*, sold more than 100,000 copies and saw them take the Best Electronic Artist/DJ category at the BT Digital Music Award in 2008.

Last year's follow-up album *For the Masses* drew similar praise and more is expected of their third, as yet unnamed, release.

Hadouken's Ashford gig was lined up after the band decided to spice up their latest tour by playing smaller shows.

With mainstream success on the horizon, it may be some time before Hadouken return to Ashford, so buy your ticket now.

The Brake Hall show is run in association with online radio station Filth FM, founded by Thomas Webb, who will also be DJing.

Support comes in the form of Out Like A Lion, whose single *Back to Front* is out next month.

The four-piece, who've supported the likes of Florence and the

Machine and Babushambles, played Glastonbury and Ashford's own Create Festival this year.

Tickets are £15 from www.seetickets.com or www.hadouken.com.



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Happy Daze - 28/8 The Drum Stanford
- 2 Fred Clark - 01/0 Hazlitt Theatre Maidstone
- 3 The Suspects - 4/9 King Edward VII in Margate
- 4 A Thousand Lights - 22/9 University of Kent, Canterbury
- 5 Craig Sheridan - 24/9 Mill Inn Deal



TAKE IT EASY: Get away from the hustle and bustle of the main waterways on South Walsham Broad – the only private broad in Norfolk

yourgetaways

Why holiday Norfolk is more than just the beautiful Broads

■ BY GARY WRIGHT

AS my 13-year-old son and I paddled our canoe from the narrow waterway, which had us ducking vegetation like something from a King Kong film (his description), we suddenly burst out on to the South Walsham Broad.

I bet no-one who saw us skimming across the expanse of still water, surrounded by lush, green countryside, would have guessed that half an hour earlier neither of us had been in a canoe before – it was easy.

South Walsham Broad is the only private broad among the 120-odd miles of waterways that make up Norfolk's biggest tourist draw.

The Broads are beautiful, and while parts are packed with pleasure craft, you can easily escape the crowds.

I was surprised to learn that the Broads are man-made. Peat dug for heat between the 1100s and 1300s filled as sea levels rose and by the 16th century the navigable Broads became a vital part of the county's transport system.

Norfolk boasts more medieval churches per square mile than anywhere else in the world (it also has a tradition of village signs too, which show the history of the village – there are more than 500).

We stayed in a beautiful cottage in the tiny village of New Buckenham, 300 yards from a Norman castle, 10 miles south of Norwich, but lightyears away from the 21st century.

The village shop, a two-minute walk away before breakfast, boasted 'Provisions' on its sign. Unfortunately bread wasn't deliv-

FACT FILE: NORFOLK

Gary Wright was a guest of Norfolk Country Cottages.

His family stayed at the three-bedroom Carpenter's Cottage in New Buckenham (right) costing £400 and £550 for the week. More details of holiday homes and accommodation at www.norfolkcottages.co.uk.

Contact direct on 01603 871872 or email info@norfolkcottages.co.uk

For more details of holidaying in Norfolk see www.visitnorfolk.co.uk

Fairhaven Woodland Water Garden on South Walsham Broad offers canoeing, boat tours, spectacular gardens, 3.5 miles of woodland paths. More at www.fairhavengarden.co.uk North Norfolk Railway. Steam and vintage diesel trains Sheringham, Weybourne and Holt. www.nnrailway.co.uk Wroxham Barns is well worth a visit to shop,



eat and relax. Craft shops, junior farm, restaurant and café and a new adventure golf course. www.wroxhambarns.co.uk Broadland Cycling Hire. Explore the countryside around the broads on a bicycle from Hoveton. Visit www.broadlandcyclinghire.co.uk or call 01603 783096 for details. Also thanks to Hyundai for the loan of the Santa Fe CRD 4x4 for the week in Norfolk.

ered until later and there wouldn't be any eggs until tomorrow.

Just up the road though, outside a rambling home, were plenty of eggs at 90p a dozen with an honesty box alongside. There were even pictures of 'the girls' who'd laid them.

Much of Norfolk feels like that, and there were lots of honesty boxes for all manner of local produce. It can still make you think you have stepped back in time.

It has no motorways, so accept that driving even 20 miles will take 40 minutes, and enjoy the scenery. Better still, dump the car and take a bicycle. There are no steep hills and there are miles of cycle-ways.

Norwich, by contrast, is a bustling city with shopping to please everyone, from designer names to market stalls and unique shops in intricate

little Lanes like Brighton. But all the time its spectacular cathedral and dramatic castle remind you of its affluent past.

Seaside fans will love Great Yarmouth, a kiss-me-quick town on the east coast with miles of sandy beaches. Its pleasure beach provides top-notch funfair rides with a dose of adrenaline and the wooden roller coaster, complete with brake-man in the middle, shows thrill rides haven't changed much in 50 years.

Cromer on the North Norfolk coast is far more traditional, and handy for the North Norfolk Steam Railway from nearby Sheringham – 10 miles of pure nostalgia.

After a week I was sorry to leave. It is a gentler pace of life with a welcome in every pub and restaurant.

We'll definitely be back.

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MOTORS NEWS



Suzuki release a timely crossover reminder

SUZUKI has created a new flagship SX4 model.

The SZ5 4x4 (from £14,235) is available with a 1.6-litre petrol or 2.0-litre diesel unit, comes with 4x4 as standard and looks like a smart bid to remind the market that Suzuki anticipated the new vogue for 'crossovers' – family hatchbacks with 'funky chunky' SUV styling.

In diesel format, it can average at least 50mpg and run in economical two-wheel or four-wheel drive. Cheaper front-wheel drive versions of the SX4 start at £11,750.



Lexus offers IS gifts as part of its celebrations

TOYOTA luxury arm Lexus is marking 20 years in the UK with special Celebration Edition offers on its IS junior executive model.

For a limited period, IS models come with a free upgrade to IS F-Sport standard for the price of an equivalent IS 250 or 220d diesel SE-I model.

This brings alloys, leather sports front seats, aluminium pedals, sports steering wheel, boot spoiler and other extras together worth £1,680. The all new IS also comes with three years' complimentary



Good news: the Qashqai has just got even better

NISSAN'S Qashqai – one of Britain's best-selling homegrown models – has received an upgrade.

Emissions and fuel-saving Stop/Start features as a £200 option on 1.6-litre petrol variants and brings road tax benefits, while the 1.5-litre dCi diesel equivalent – the pick of the range – is greener and more powerful (rising from 105bhp to 108bhp).

Nissan has also boosted the n-tec luxury grade by adding 18-inch alloys as standard while a new £250 option brings chrome highlights inside and out.



SPANISH STYLE: Although the Leon FR's interior feels cheap and the dashboard is generally drab, the car is great fun to drive with an automatic 'box or manual F1-style paddles

Seat have a hot hatch with coupé style rolled into one

YOU don't need to climb into the Leon FR to be seduced.

Our test car looked superb in what the Spanish 'Auto Emocion' brand calls 'Speed Blue' – a £550 option from Seat's so-called custom palette, which looks suspiciously like what the trade also used to call 'base colours' ie the non-metallics.

But here's the thing; Seats invariably look great in bold colours and people seem happy to pay extra to escape the monochromatic motoring hell that was two decades of silver and grey metallic.

Our car was also shod with 18-inch Orion black alloys (£510) making it sure to turn heads.

It's not even Seat's hottest Leon yet the FR looks fiery enough with its coupé lines and twin-chromed exhausts.

And you are still being led by the nose as you grip the fat leather wheel and note tasteful red seat stitching, but then things unravel – the rest of the cabin is dull; it is durable, but details can feel cheap and the dashboard is generally drab.

It's a shame, when the Leon cabin is practical and spacious and the car so entertaining,

ROAD TEST SEAT LEON FR

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

using the excellent VW Golf platform and well-known VW powertrains, while infused with the character of Seat itself.

The test car was particular fun with a 170PS (167bhp) 2.0-litre turbodiesel plus six-speed/twin clutch VW DSG gearbox.

It might sound like a contradiction, but this automatic 'box is the perfect partner for a sporting car in the real world; it changes itself when you are bogged down in traffic, but you can race through the gears yourself on a clear road by using F1-style paddles on the wheel.

It's even slightly faster than the manual, taking eight seconds to reach 62mph, and only marginally worse on fuel.

Providing you use gearbox and chassis sensibly, it will average around 50mpg and attracts just £125/year in road tax – not bad for such a sporting car mixing reassuring grip and handling with a decent ride.

However, to spec up with the bold colour and alloys plus that highly attractive gearbox you will add £2,310 to the £19,490 of our FR CR model – a lot of money when you consider that the Leon range starts at a modest £13,975.



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2006 06 Reg VAUXHALL Zafira 1.8i Life, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Petrol, 2006 06 Reg, 47,000 miles, £6,995
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2004 54 Reg RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2004 54 Reg, £3,995
2001 Y Reg PEUGEOT 206 2.0 SE Cabriolet, 2 Doors, Manual, Cabriolet, Petrol, 2001 Y Reg, £3,995
2002 51 Reg RENAULT Scenic 1.9 dCi Dynamique, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Diesel, 2002 51 Reg, £3,495
2002 52 Reg RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression QSS, 5 Doors, Automatic, Hatchback, Petrol, £2,995
1999 RENAULT Clio 1.6 16v, 3 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 1999, 64,000 miles, Metallic Red, £1,995

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Cdi Sport Saloon, White, Turbo Diesel, Automatic, 26000 miles
£23,500



2008 08 Mitsubishi L200

4wd LWB Warrior
Pick Up, Aluminium Silver, 5 Speed Gearbox, 24000 miles,
£13,495 + vat



2008 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 TDi

SE estate, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 64000 miles
£10,995



2008 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 TDi

SE Saloon, Grey, Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed Manual, 69000 miles
£9,995



2008 Ford Mondeo 2.0 Edge

140 TDCi Estate, Tango Red, Turbo Diesel, 67000 miles
£8,995

CAR LISTING

2007 57 Mercedes-Benz E280 Cdi Sport Saloon, White, Turbo Diesel, Automatic, 26000 miles . . . £23,500
2006 Mercedes-Benz ML320 CDi SE Estate, Black, Turbo Diesel, Automatic, 77000 miles . . . £19,995
2008 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 TDi SE estate, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed Manual, 64000 miles . . . £10,995
2008 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 TDi SE Saloon, Grey, Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed Manual, 69000 miles . . . £9,995
08 08 'New Shape' Ford Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Edge 6sp, 1 owner, 53k, FSH, A/C, ABS, PAS, R/C/L, Immob, E/W, CD in Met Grey . . . £8,995
2008 Ford Mondeo 2.0 Edge 140 TDCi Estate, Tango Red, Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed Manual, 67000 miles . . . £8,995
2001 Mercedes-Benz ML320 CDi Estate, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, Automatic . . . £8,495
2005 BMW 318ci 2.0 Sport 'M SPORT' Coupe, Aluminium Silver, Turbo, 5 speed manual, 77000 miles . . . £8,295
08 08 Peugeot 407 2.0 HDi SE 4dr, 6sp, 1 owner, 32k, FSH, A/C, ABS, Cruise, R/C/L, immob, E/W, CD, fogs, CD, Alloys, in metallic blue . . . £7,995
2007 Seat Leon 1.9 TDi Reference TDi 5dr hatchback, Black, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 68000 miles . . . £7,995
2007 Ford Focus 1.8 Style TDCi, 5dr, Hatchback, Blue, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 47000 miles . . . £7,695
2007 Ford Focus 1.8 Style TDCi, 5dr, Hatchback, Blue, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 44000 miles . . . £7,195
2004 Honda CR-V 2.0 I-VTEC Executive Estate, Red, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 79000 miles . . . £6,995
2007 Ford Focus 1.8 TDCi estate, Blue, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 54000 miles . . . £6,695
2007 Peugeot 307 1.6 SW S HDi Estate, Red, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 68000 miles . . . £6,995
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 Life CDTi 5dr hatchback, Black, Turbo Diesel, Manual, 48000 miles . . . £6,695
2007 Mazda 6 TS2 D Estate, Grey, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 102000 . . . £6,495
2007 Ford Focus 1.8 LX TDCi Estate, Red, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 73000 miles . . . £6,195
07 57 Mazda 6 TS 2.0 D 5Dr Estate, 6sp, 1 owner, FSH, A/C, ABS, PAS, R/C/L, Immob, E/W, E/M, CD, Alloys in Met Black . . . £5,995
2007 Ford Mondeo LX TDCi Estate, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 83000 miles . . . £5,995
2007 Ford Mondeo 2.0 LX TDCi 5dr Hatchback, Grey, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 71000 miles . . . £5,695
2007 Ford Mondeo LX TDCi 5dr Hatchback, Black, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 68000 miles . . . £5,995
2004 Peugeot 407 SW Executive Estate, Maroon, Turbo, Automatic, 67000 miles . . . £5,695
06 56 Ford Mondeo 2.0 LX Auto, 5dr, 2 owners, 61k, FSH, A/C, ABS, PAS, Cruise, R/C/L, Immob, CD in Met Grey . . . £5,495
2007 57 Mazda 6 Hatchback 2.0td, 1 owner, 96,000 miles, A/C, E/W, PAS, C/L, Alloys, Met Silver . . . £5,495
2007 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Style TDCi 5dr Hatchback, Green, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 55000 . . . £4,995
2002 Volkswagen Golf Avantgarde Convertible, Aluminium Silver, Petrol, 5 Speed manual, 53000 miles . . . £5,495
2004 Vauxhall Zafira 2.0 Elegance Dti 16v, 7 seater MPV, Burgundy, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 71000 miles . . . £5,295
2003 Jaguar X-Type V6 SE Saloon, Beige Buff, Petrol, Automatic, 88000 miles . . . £4,995
2002 Peugeot 2006 1.6 Coupe Cabriolet S, Blue, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 59222 miles . . . £4,995
2002 Toyota Celica 1.8 VVT-i 3dr hatchback, Blue, Petrol, 6 speed manual, 82000 miles . . . £4,295
2007 Ford KA 1.3 Style Cloth 3dr Hatchback, White, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 37000 miles . . . £3,995
2005 Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 SXi 16v Twinport 5dr hatchback, Aluminium Silver, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 80000 miles . . . £3,995
2002 Ford Mondeo Zetec-SV6 24v 5dr hatchback, Green, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 78000 miles . . . £3,695
2004 Ford KA 1.3 Collection 3dr Hatchback, Black, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 35000 miles . . . £3,695
2004 Vauxhall Vectra 1.8 Life 16v 5dr Hatchback, Aluminium Silver, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 96000 miles . . . £3,695
01 51 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 SE Estate Auto, 2 owners, 83k, SH, ABS, PAS, R/C/L, Immob, E/W, Heated seats, CD, Metallic Green . . . £3,295
2001 51 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 se Auto Estate, 2 owners, S/H, E/W, C/L, A/C, Met Green . . . £3,295
2002 Alfa Romeo 156 1.6 T-Spark Turismo Sportwagen Estate, Aluminium Silver, Petrol, 5 speed manual, 63000 miles . . . £2,995

COMMERCIALS

2008 Mitsubishi L200 4wd LWB Warrior Pick Up, Aluminium Silver, 5 Speed Gearbox, 24000 miles . . . £13,495 + vat
2007 Ford Transit 2.4 D350 LWB DCC 100 Tipper Truck, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 53000 miles . . . £8,995 +vat
07 07 Mitsubishi L200 2.4 DI-D Warrior Double Cab, 1 owner, FSH, A/C, ABS, PAS, ASR, R/C/L, Immob, E/W, CD, Leather, Alloys in Met Black . . . £8,495 +vat
07 57 Volkswagen Transporter 1.9 TDi T28 SWB 103bhp, 1 owner, 97k, FSH, ABS, PAS, ASR, R/C/L, Immob, ply lined, side loading door, Cd in White . . . £7,495 +vat
2007 Ford Transit 280 SWB Lr Pv 85 Panel Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 87000 miles . . . £6,695 +vat
2007 Ford Transit 2.2 T280 SWB Lr Pv 85 Panel Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual . . . £6,295 +vat
07 07 Ford Transit 2.2 85 T280 S FWD, 1 owner, 86k, FSH, ABS, PAS, ESP, R/C/L, Immob, Ply Lined, CD in White . . . £5,995 +vat
2007 Volkswagen Transporter T28 SWB Pbv Pv 84 TDi, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 117000 miles . . . £5,995 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Club van, White, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 68000 miles . . . £5,995 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 CDTi Club Ac Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 90000 miles . . . £5,695 +vat
2007 Ford Transit Connect TDCi T230 LX LWB 90 Panel, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 97000 miles . . . £5,495 +vat
2008 Volkswagen Caddy 2.0 C20 SDi Van, White, Diesel, 5 speed manual, 87000 miles . . . £5,495 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astravan 1.3 CDTi Club Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 70000 miles . . . £5,495 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Club Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 61000 miles . . . £5,495 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Club Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 60000 miles . . . £5,495 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 Club CDTi Estate, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual . . . £5,495 +vat
2007 Peugeot Expert 1.9D 800 70 panel Van, White, Diesel, 5 speed manual, 60000 miles . . . £4,995 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Club Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 61000 miles . . . £5,295 +vat
2008 Volkswagen Caddy 2.0 C20 SDi Van, White, Diesel, 5 speed manual . . . £5,295 +vat
2006 Volkswagen Caddy 1.9 C20 TDi SWB Van, Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 92000 miles . . . £4,695 +vat
2007 Peugeot Partner 1.9 LX 600 D Van, White, Diesel, 5 speed manual, 30000 miles . . . £4,495 +vat
2006 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 CDTi Envoy van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 29000 miles . . . £4,495 +vat
2007 Vauxhall Combo 1.3 CDTi 1700 Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 60000 miles . . . £4,495 +vat
2007 Peugeot Partner 1.9 Di 600 L SWB Cdv Van, White, Turbo Diesel, 5 speed manual, 75000 miles . . . £4,295 +vat



2007 Mazda 6 TS 2.0 D Estate

Aluminium Silver, Turbo Diesel, 6 speed manual, 65000 miles
£7,995



2002 Volkswagen Golf Avantgarde

Convertible, Aluminium Silver, Petrol, 5 Speed manual, 53000 miles
£5,495



2007 Ford Focus 1.8 Style TDCi

5dr, Hatchback, Blue, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 47000 miles
£7,695



2007 Ford Focus 1.8 TDCi estate,

Blue, Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed manual, 54000 miles
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Official Government Test Environmental Data – Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Corsa Limited Edition Range: urban 40.9 (6.9) – 52.3 (5.4), extra-urban 64.2 (4.4) – 76.3 (3.7), combined 53.3 (5.3) – 65.7 (4.3), CO₂ Emissions 124 – 114 g/km.

Deal available to private individuals only for orders between 07.07.10 and 30.09.10. Deals may not apply to all retailer stock and are subject to availability, correct at time of going to press. UK supplied vehicles only. For full specification and details contact your local retailer, before placing an order. Figures shown are based on a non-maintenance contract hire package for the bailment of goods over 36 months, assuming a maximum of 6,000 miles per annum. All rentals are quoted inclusive of VAT. An advance rental of £627 inc. VAT is payable, followed by 35 regular monthly rentals of £209 inc. VAT. The quotation is subject to there being no changes in VAT or manufacturer list price. An excess mileage charge applies if the annual contract mileage is exceeded (4.4p per mile up to 6,000 miles and 6.38p per mile above 6,000 miles and above). The quotation is given subject to the vehicle being serviced and maintained in accordance with manufacturer guidelines and the vehicle must be returned to Vauxhall Leasing in a condition commensurate with the BVRLA Fair Wear & Tear guidelines for its age and mileage. Charges will be applied should these conditions not be met. All quotations are subject to availability, status, acceptance and agreement and guarantees may be required. Package includes Road Fund Licence and Vauxhall Assistance. Contract hire provided by ALD Automotive Ltd., trading as Vauxhall Leasing, Oakwood Park, Lodge Causeway, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 3JA. Contract hire is subject to status, availability and conditions. A guarantee and/or indemnity may be required. Applicants must be 18 or over. Full terms and conditions are available upon request. Offer shown relates to Corsa 1.3 CDTi. (Vaux98309)

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Pomphreys										Always something extra									
AGILA																			
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2008	58	Agila Club CDTi	1.3	5	Steel silver	10,450	7,995			2009	59	Corsa Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Black sapphire	4,600	9,495		
2009	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlantis blue	9,350	8,995			2009	59	Corsa Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	9,950	8,995		
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Lemon grass	1,350	9,495			2009	59	Corsa Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Silver lightening	4,300	9,995		
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Moroccan blue	1,266	9,495			2009	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Silver lightening	800	10,495		
2009	59	Agila Club CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	3,900	8,995			2009	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Silver lightening	4,450	9,995		
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Moroccan blue	5,150	9,295			2009	59	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Black sapphire	6,350	9,395		
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.2	5	Silver	2,355	10,750			2009	59	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Star silver	7,180	9,395		
2010	59	Agila Design	1.2	5	Lemon grass	2,790	8,995			INSIGNIA & SIGNUM									
ANTARA										Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2007	07	Antara CDTi Auto	2.0	5	Metro blue	20,000	11,995			2009	09	Insignia Tourer Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	9,300	13,995		
2008	57	Antara CDTi E Auto	2.0	5	Slate blue	18,100	12,995			2009	59	Insignia Elite CDTi Nav	2.0	5	Sovereign silver	6,550	20,995		
2009	59	Antara Exclusive CDTi	2.0D	5	Placid grey	2,020	17,495			2009	59	Insignia CDTi ECO Exclusive	2.0	5	Silver lake	7,350	15,995		
ASTRA										MERIVA									
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2006	06	Astra Active	1.6	5	Ultra blue	37,000	6,495			2006	06	Meriva Active E/T	1.6	5	Metro blue	33,225	5,995		
2007	07	Astra Energy CDTi	1.3D	5	Ultra blue	15,485	7,495			VECTRA									
2007	07	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Flame red	42,700	7,495			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2007	07	Astra Sri Sports hatch X pack	1.6 TBO	3	Flame red	29,810	8,995			2006	56	Vectra SRI CDTi	1.8	5	Metro blue	33,180	7,195		
2007	57	Astra Sxi Sports hatch CDTi	1.7D	3	Star silver	40,675	8,495			2007	57	Vectra Design Auto CDTi	1.9	5	Black sapphire	58,650	7,995		
2008	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	24,300	8,995			2007	07	Vectra Design Auto CDTi	1.9	5	Star silver	15,117	8,995		
2008	08	Astra Sri X Pack	1.6	5	Black sapphire	14,575	9,295			2008	58	Vectra Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	15,390	8,495		
2008	58	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Silver lightening	10,700	8,495			ZAFIRA									
2009	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Panacotta	12,625	9,495			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2009	09	Astra Club	1.4	5	Silver lightening	18,218	7,995			2008	58	Zafira Exclusive	1.6	5	Star silver	13,700	8,995		
2009	09	Astra Sri CDTi X Pack	1.9D	5	Star silver	9,710	13,995			2009	59	Zafira Design CDTi	1.9	5	Panacotta	2,200	16,995		
2009	09	Astra Active	1.4	5	Black sapphire	9,650	9,495			2009	59	Zafira Active	1.6	5	Black sapphire	4,460	12,995		
2009	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	14,100	9,995			2009	59	Zafira Active Plus	1.8	5	Ultra blue	5,670	13,495		
2009	59	Astra Sxi eco flex	1.7D	5	Sovereign silver	3,400	12,495			DUE SOON									
2009	59	Astra Sports Twin top	1.8	2	Air blue	3,320	15,995			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2009	59	Astra Sxi CDTi	1.9D	5	Power red	8,000	12,995			2002	02*	Corsa SE	1.0	3	Flamer red	48,000	2,995		
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	4,960	9,995			2007	57	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Star silver	9,290	6,995		
2009	59	New Astra Exclusiv CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	6,450	13,995			2008	08*	Corsa Breeze Plus	1.3	3	Silver lightening	60,000	6,995		
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	3,990	9,995			2005	05*	Astra Breeze	1.6	5	Grey	44,500	5,495		
2009	59	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	6,250	9,995			2008	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	11,000	9,495		
2009	59	New Astra Sri	1.6	5	Power red	5,340	14,495			2010	59	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Arden blue		17,995		
CORSA										2005	05*	Meriva Breeze	1.4	5	Star silver	42,000	4,995		
Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£			2001	51*	Vectra Sxi	1.6	4	Black	71,000	2,495		
2006	56	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Flame red	38,450	6,995			2006	56	Zafira Active	1.6	5	Metro blue	48,000	6,995		
2007	07	Corsa Club	1.2	5	Flame red	27,810	6,495			2008	08	Zafira Breeze +	1.9	5	Star silver	23,000	9,995		
2007	57	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Flame red	49,370	6,995			COMMERCIALS									
2008	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3	3	Black sapphire	11,440	7,995			Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£		
2008	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3	3	Star silver	24,590	8,250			2008	58	Combo Crew van	1.7	6	White	3,650	7,995 No VAT		
2009	09	Corsa Active	1.0	5	Star silver	6,270	8,475			2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	Del	11,295 +VAT		
2009	09	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Metro blue	19,970	7,995			2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	17,900	10,695 +VAT		
										2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	15,925	10,995 +VAT		

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55 FORD CMAX TDCi, Ghia, Tonic blue with velour trim, P/S, ABS, C/L, E/W, CD Player, Alloys, Well maintained.....£3,995

DIESEL

57 MERCEDES - BENZ GL CLASS 320 CDI 4 MATIC ,18,000 mls, Sat Nav, Electric pack, Silver, Full leather trim, privacy glass, fully loaded. Available for.....£34,995
05 BMW 530 DIESEL SPORT. Automatic M'Tec Design, Sat Nav, silver with full black leather trim, voice command, FSH. Available for.....£12,995
56 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI (170) SPORTSLINE, Metallic Grey with sports trim, Bose Audio Syatem, Multi-function steering wheel, Service history£11,995
04 MERCEDES C220 2.1 CDI SE Automatic, Silver with contrasting trim, P/S, E/W, C/L, Alloys, ABS, Air con. Stunning£5,995
03 JAGUAR X TYPE 2.0 Diesel SPORT, Full touch screen sat nav, Silver, Full leather trim, Alloys, Climate control. A stunning car£5,495
54 KIA SEDONA 7 Seater, Silver, Full leather trim, In car entertainment, 5 sp, Alloys, Roof rail, Full electric pack, Side loading door£4,995
06 FORD MONDEO TDCi TITANIUM, 5 door, Panther black with velour trim, Upgraded alloys, Sony 6 stack CD player, P/S, E/W, C/L, ABS, E/M, ESP manual. A clean car ..£4,695
54 SAAB 93 1.9 TD VECTOR , Metallic blue with two tone tan leather trim, 6 speed, multifunction steering wheel, CD player. A well maintained car£4,495
55 FORD CMAX TDCi GHIA, tonic blue with velour trim P/S, ABS, C/L, E/W, CD player, alloys, well maintained£3,995

SUMMERTIME

55 (06) VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE 1.6 LUNA CONVERTABLE, 22,000 mls, Silver with black power hood, New upgraded 18" Alloys, Electric pack. A stunning car£9,495
05 FORD 1.6i STREET KA LUXURY, 55,000 mls, Sports blue with black leather trim, Service history, Alloys, Electric pack, Clean.....£4,995
02 SAAB 9.3 2.0 TURBO SE, 63,000 mls, Service history, Silver with blue power hood, Full black leather trim, Air con, boot spoiler.....£4,995
R BMW Z3 1.8, Bright red with full black leather trim, black hood, New MTEC Alloys, CD player, Service History£3,995

AUTOMATICS

55 MERCEDES - BENZ C CLASS C200 KOMPRESSOR 3 DOOR AUTOMATIC WITH PANORAMIC ROOF (Full length), Metallic Grey, ESP Climate control£9,495
X MERCEDES C200 KOMPRESSOR 2.0, 78,000 mls, bright red with dark velour trim, well maintained, new model. Very clean£4,695
04 MERCEDES C180 KOMPRESSOR COUPE, every extra. Sat nev, Full panoramic roof, Leather, Electric pack, 74,000 mls, S/history£6,995
03 JAGUAR S-TYPE 4.2V8 AUTOMATIC WITH TOUCH SCREEN SAT NAV, Ice pearl blue, Full leather trim, Upgraded alloys£4,995
05 FOCUS 1.6 LX AUTOMATIC, 5 dr, 59,000 mls, Tonic blue with grey flec trim, P/S, E/W, C/L, E/M, Air con, ABS.Well maintained, nice clean car£4,695
02 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC AUTOMATIC, Full leather trim, Metallic red, 65,000 mls, Air con, Alloys. Very clean£3,295
X PEUGEOT 1.6 306 LX AUTOMATIC, 28,000 mls, Silver with grey trim, Alloys, P/S, ABS, C/L, E/W, Air con, Boot spoiler£1,995

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04 (53) AUDI A4 2.0 FSI SPORT. 74k, Bright red with sports trim. P/S, E/W, ABS, Alloys, Boot spoiler. Service history. A stunning car.....£5,995
55 RENAULT MEGAN 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE TOURING, 39,000 mls, Metallic red with grey trim. A lovely car. Alloys, P/S, E/W, E/M, C/L, Air con. At just£3,995
05 MG ZT 18 (160 bhp) New model, Silver with ZR Sports trim, E/W, P/S, E/M, Air con, Alloys. Worth a look - clean car£3,495
02 OPEL CORSA 1.8 GSi, Silver with sports trim, P/S, E/W, C/L, E/M alloys, very clean well maintained£3,295
55 CHEVROLET TACUMA 2.0 CDX, Silver 34,000 mls, Air con, E/W, C/L, P/S, ABS£2,995
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PROPERTY NEWS

New-builds to be less of a taxing proposition?

A CHANGE to tax proposals could mean that new-build properties become more popular with buyers, according to one property expert.

The Government is considering a higher stamp duty tax for homes that are poorly insulated. Homes that lose large amounts of energy through draughty windows and poorly insulated lofts would be subject to the higher tax, say experts.

Reacting to the claims, the founder of newhomesforsale.co.uk Vernon Pethard said people will be encouraged to buy new homes to avoid falling foul of this tax.

"Threatening an increase in stamp duty on older, poorly insulated homes is likely to deter people from buying one because it's not always possible to bring them up to modern standards," he said.

UK best for investors in commercial property

COMMERCIAL property insurance customers have been told there is little reason to believe the UK commercial property market has become overvalued as a result of recent price rises.

Ed Stansfield, property economist, suggested the UK had seen "one of the bigger corrections" of all global commercial property markets during the downturn and, equally, one of the larger recoveries.

"The bottom line is that there is not a lot of evidence to suggest the UK market had become overvalued as a result of the upswing," he said.

Mr Stansfield's comments follow the Global Investment Perspective report by HSBC, which claimed the UK remains the most attractive commercial property market for investors.

Slight drop in number of tenants owing rent

A FIFTH of private-residential landlords have had tenants in rent arrears over the last three months, according to new research by the National Landlords Association.

During the second quarter of 2010, just over 21 per cent of landlords experienced rental arrears. This represents an improvement on the previous quarter when the figure was at 24.5 per cent.

Furthermore, the average amount of outstanding rent arrears has dropped significantly from £978 in the first three months to £799 in the second.



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MIXED MESSAGES: Despite this week's good news that house prices are creeping up some experts have issued warnings the housing market remains highly volatile at present

Market rise in house prices met with some scepticism

BY NICK AMES

THE HOUSING market has received a boost following the news from the Halifax that prices rose unexpectedly last month.

The news comes as a welcome relief as overall prices have been falling in the last few weeks, but Halifax analysts saw a 0.6 per cent upswing.

This news has been greeted with jubilation by investors and homeowners.

But there are still fears the market is volatile and has been completely settled.

The average price increased to £167,425 from £166,351 and followed falls in the previous three months, including a 0.6 per cent fall in June. The rise beat economists' forecasts of a 0.3 per cent fall in July.

"The mixed pattern of monthly rises and falls over the first seven months of the year is

consistent with a slowing market," said Martin Ellis, housing economist at Halifax.

"It is also in line with our view that house prices will be broadly unchanged over 2010 as a whole."

Prices in July were 4.8 per cent higher compared with a year earlier, the same as the year-on-year increase in June, but lower than the peak of 8.7 per cent in April.

Since the beginning of this year the average UK house price has fallen by £2,059, or 1.2 per cent. Prices are 16 per cent below their August 2007 peak.

Mr Ellis said that while low interest rates and a recovering economy continued to support the housing market, an increase in the number of properties being put on the market

– boosted by the coalition Government's abolition of Home Information Packs (HIPs) – had relieved some of the supply constraint which drove prices up in 2009.

However other experts have issued warnings.

Paul Diggle, property economist at Capital Economics said that monthly house prices were volatile and would continue to be so in the short term.

He said July's increase did not change the likelihood that prices are set for a period of "considerable weakness" in the remainder of this year and into 2011.

"The weakness in buyer activity, signs that credit conditions may be tightening again, the possibility of renewed weakness in the labour market in the next year, and the hit on household incomes that the fiscal squeeze will bring over the next few years, will all weigh on house prices," Mr Diggle said.

Buy in right catchment area and your child will reap reward

PARENTS could be making a good investment by paying more for a house within the catchment area of a good school.

The additional spending will be worth it if the location of a higher priced property improves the

chances of children being admitted to a particular school, according to Mouseprice director Selwyn Lim.

He advised parents that it is also worth considering the life-time value of such an investment.

Mr Lim explained: "That premi-

um doesn't actually sound like that much if that is to be spread across the entire schooling age of a child or 2.4 children [per family] on average. It doesn't translate to that much money per child per year if you divide it."

Nationwide reported that parents are prepared to pay an extra 4.6 per cent – £8,670 – for a property in a good school catchment area.

A ten per cent pass rate in Sats also adds a 3.3 per cent premium to a property in a particular area.

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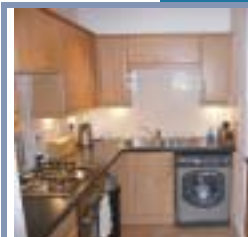
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Closing date: 26 August 2010
Interview date: 7 September 2010

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Additional Learning Support Tutor/Assessor Ref: P0557

Salary: £24,792 - £28,311 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking to recruit an exceptional candidate to assist with learning support for students with additional learning support needs. The ideal candidate will be able to demonstrate experience in and knowledge of tutoring, assessing and supporting learners with difficulties and disabilities. The successful candidate will hold a recognised assessing certificate.

Lecturer in Hair

Ref: P0496

26 hours per week Salary: £25,181 - £27,881 pro rata Fixed Term Maternity Cover Medway

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Ref: SE896

Salary: £8.96 - £11.26 (dependent on qualifications and experience) Medway/Maidstone

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CLOSING DATE: Wednesday 25 August 2010

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The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Advanced Skills Lecturer in Civil Engineering Ref: P0333

Salary: £40,512 per annum
Maidstone

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CLOSING DATE: Friday 20 August 2010

INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD THE WEEK COMMENCING 30 AUGUST 2010

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Campus Youth Worker Ref: P0001

Salary: £24,792 - £29,160 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
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Medway

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For further details or an informal discussion please call Karen Baker on 01634 383647.

CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2010
INTERVIEWS TO BE HELD MID SEPTEMBER

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk Alternatively, you can email recruitment@kca.org.uk or call 01795 590795 and select option three. Please quote reference number 695.

Closing date: 20 August 2010 at 5.00pm
Interview date: 9 September 2010 in Ashford.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.
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CRICKET

BY TOM HOWARD

Kent League Premier 2nd XI

Bromley 2nd XI v The Mote 2nd XI

THE MOTE 2nd XI are still searching for their first win of the season after a comprehensive seven-wicket defeat at Bromley.

While the first-team are flying high in the top half of the Premier League, the 2nd XI have struggled this season and are without a win from their 15 games.

The Mote looked unlikely to change their run of form when they were put into bat first by Bromley. The innings started with John Clark being dismissed to the first ball of the game. He was followed into the pavilion by Houssain Johnston (8) and Howard Waters (7) shortly after.

Resistance

Warren Jackson provided some resistance with a knock of 21, but his stay at the crease was stopped short by Michael Bluett. Danny Rowe (56) salvaged the innings with a fine half-century and he was helped on the way by Rajeevan Raveendran's 20.

However, ducks for Richard Usher and Ben Elliott followed as the tail collapsed and The Mote were eventually all out for 158.

Bromley made light work of the run chase as the visitors' bowlers struggled to cause the batsmen any problems. Half-centuries from Sadiq Hassan (58) and Alex de Warrenne (50) set Bromley on the way to victory, which arrived after only 30 overs.

The first-team, whose game against league-leaders Bromley was abandoned due to rain, are back in action this Saturday at Tunbridge Wells.

Winless streak goes on for struggling side



NO SHOW: The Mote's first-team had their game rained off, while the 2nd XI's total of 158 was never going to trouble Bromley

SCORE CARD

The Mote 2nd XI

	Runs
Warren Jackson lbw b Bluett	21
John Clark lbw b Horder	0
Houssain Johnston lbw b McNeill	8
Howard Waters ct Peters b Hoque	7
Danny Rowe st Bailes b Bluett	56
Richard Usher lbw b Bluett	0
Rajeevan Raveendran ct Horder b Bluett	20
Ben Elliott lbw b Bluett	0
Chris Coles b Horder	4
James Rowe not out	14
Paul Usher b Peters	10

Extras (1b 14w 3nb) 18
Total (all out, 48.1 overs) 158

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Rob McNeill	8	3	23	1
Matthew Horder	15	3	52	2
Michael Bluett	15	3	58	5
Wasim Hoque	9	5	16	1
Craig Peters	11	0	8	1

Bromley 2nd XI

	Runs
Stephen Bailes ct Waters b D Rowe	9
Sadiq Hassan b J Rowe	58
Alex de Warrenne not out	50
Omar Barnes st Coles b Johnston	11
Christopher Tooley not out	23
Matthew Horder did not bat	
Craig Peters did not bat	
Michael Bluett did not bat	
Jonathan Froome did not bat	
Wasim Hoque did not bat	
Rob McNeill did not bat	

Extras (4b 2lb 2w) 8
Total (3 wickets, 30 overs) 159

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Danny Rowe	8	0	49	1
James Rowe	6	1	41	1
Paul Usher	7	0	31	0
Houssain Johnston	7	1	21	1
Richard Usher	2	0	11	0

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE 1A CENTRAL

Leeds & Broomfield 1st XI v Hunton Wanderers 1st XI

LEEDS & Broomfield continue to charge towards the Regional League 1A title after recording a convincing eight-wicket win against Hunton Wanderers.

Hunton batted first but their innings was disrupted as the hosts' bowlers were in amongst the wickets early on. Tony Shaw provided some resistance with 37, but it could only help them to 106 for 8.

Runs from John Hartshorn (22), Max Aitken (31), Chris Davis (27) and Geoff Hunt (21) in reply, helped the home side to a comfortable victory.

Hunton Wanderers 1st XI

	Runs
Andy Burnham lbw b Samson	17
Chris Adams b Samson	0
Mark Lancelley ct Bailey b Hunt	13
Alex Newman ct Hunt b Hunt	5
Tony Shaw lbw b Martin	37
Ashley Maguire ct Hunt b Longhurst	4
Thomas Matthewson ct Martin b Longhurst	2
Richard Shaw not out	10
Andrew Vickers b Hunt	6
Chris Gott not out	5
Robert Niblett did not bat	

Extras 7
Total (8 wickets, 28 overs) 106

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Adrian Samson	7	1	30	2
Geoff Hunt	7	0	40	3
James Longhurst	7	2	12	2
Anton Martin	3	0	16	1
Neil Dibben	4	2	4	0

Leeds & Broomfield 1st XI

	Runs
John Hartshorn ct Burnham b Niblett	22
Max Aitken ct Lancelley b Shaw	31
Chris Davis not out	27
Geoff Hunt not out	21
Neil Dibben did not bat	
Aaron Bailey did not bat	
Anton Martin did not bat	
James Longhurst did not bat	
Daren Hunt did not bat	
James Longhurst did not bat	
Adrian Samson did not bat	

Extras 8
Total (2 wickets, 20.5 overs) 109

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Robert Niblett	0	0	0	0
Mark Lancelley	7	0	29	1
Richard Shaw	6	0	29	0
Thomas Matthewson	4	1	18	1
Alex Newman	3	0	24	0
	0.5	0	5	0

FRIENDLY

Norton Sports 1st XI v Yalding Sunday XI

JAMES Fenn's impressive knock of 71 from 63 balls helped Yalding to a 33-run win at Norton Sports.

Yalding started slowly as openers Marty Hollis (18) and Jonathan Fenn (2) went cheaply. However, Jack Nyren (32) and James Fenn (71) steadied the ship with a fine partnership before a batting collapse left Yalding to defend 140.

The visitors got to grips with the task well as wickets tumbled at regular intervals which left Norton Sports in trouble. The hosts were quickly dismissed for 107 after 30 overs.

Yalding Sunday XI

	Runs
Marty Hollis b Burgin	18
Jonathan Fenn c&b Laslett	2
Jack Nyren b Yates	32
James Fenn ct Arnold b Pout	71
D Gnanapragasam lbw b Pout	7
Bradley Ford b Marshall	2
Brian Ethakadu ct Burgin b Marshall	0
Jonathan Card ct Burgin b Pout	0
Blesson Ethakadu not out	0
Brodie Fernandes b Pout	0
Luke MacWilliam b Pout	0

Extras (2b 3lb 3nb) 8
Total (all out, 32 overs) 40

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Trevor Laslett	5	1	19	1
Dave Burgin	8	0	30	1
Andrew Neaves	4	0	21	0
Michael Yates	5	0	19	1
A Marshall	3	0	13	0
Sam Arnold	3	0	22	0
Dale Pout	3	2	8	5
Daniel Marshall	1	0	3	2

Norton Sports 1st XI

	Runs
Andrew Neaves ct Hollis b MacWilliam	1
Duncan Law b MacWilliam	11
Daniel Marshall ct Hollis b Ford	25
Michael Yates ct Ethakadu b Ford	6
Dave Burgin ct Hollis b Ford	0
Dale Pout c&b Hollis	47
Trevor Laslett run out Fenn	0
Sam Arnold c&b Fenn	1
A Marshall ct Fenn b Ethakadu	3
I Ashbee b Hollis	3
J Burgin not out	0

Extras (2b 4lb 3w 1nb) 10
Total (all out, 30 overs) 107

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Luke MacWilliam	6	1	21	2
Bradley Ford	8	3	23	3
James Fenn	4	0	9	1
Brodie Fernandes	4	1	20	0
Blesson Ethakadu	4	1	14	1
Marty Hollis	3	0	13	2
Jonathan Fenn	1	0	1	0

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION 2B EAST & CENTRAL

Old Williamsons 2nd XI v Bearsted 2nd XI

MARC King's knock of 40 condemned Bearsted 2nd XI to a one-wicket defeat in a low scoring game.

Bowler-friendly conditions made life tough for both sides and only two Bearsted batsmen, Alex Dimmick (14) and James Midgely (15), reached double figures as they limped to 66 all-out. Samuel Pepper was the pick of the hosts' bowling unit, taking 3 for 12.

Old Williamsons crumpled to 15 for 7 in reply, before King defied the conditions to hit 40. The skipper struck the winning runs with a four over mid-wicket to seal an extraordinary victory.

Bearsted 2nd XI

	Runs
Tim Lush ct Pentecost b King	4
Alex Dimmick ct Pentecost b King	14
Dan Cowell b Rayner	0
Neil Jefferies ct Pentecost b Rayner	3
Rod Maloney ct Routledge b King	2
Stephen Horrocks b Masters	2
James Midgely lbw b Pepper	15
James Macfarlane b Pepper	0
Daniel Jefferies ct Holbrook b Pepper	6
Chris Norris not out	2
Ben Lush b Masters	0

Extras (4b 4lb 10w) 18
Total (all out, 31 overs) 66

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Marc King	10	3	21	3
Craig Rayner	10	3	17	2
Joe Masters	6	2	8	2
Samuel Pepper	5	1	12	3

Old Williamsons 2nd XI

	Runs
Ashley Pentecost ct Maloney b Macfarlane	1
David Routledge ct Jefferies b Horrocks	0
Samuel Pepper ct Maloney b Horrocks	0
Sean Holbrook ct Cowell b Macfarlane	5
James Pentecost ct Midgely b Horrocks	0
Andrew Routledge ct Cowell b Horrocks	1
Neil Farnham-Hodgson ct Norris b Horrocks	2
Marc King not out	40
Jake Butcher ct Maloney b Horrocks	2
Craig Rayner ct Macfarlane b Horrocks	7
Joe Masters not out	0

Extras (2b 9w) 11
Total (9 wickets, 21 overs) 69

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Stephen Horrocks	10	3	16	7
James Macfarlane	7	1	23	2
Tim Lush	3	0	23	0
Daniel Jefferies	1	0	5	0

FRIENDLY

Benenden Sunday XI v Linton Park Sunday 2nd XI

A HALF-CENTURY from Patrick Coyne and Hamish Cloke's five-wicket haul earned Benenden Sunday XI an 80-run at home to Linton Park.

Coyne gave Benenden a great start to the innings with an impressive 62 and he was helped by Mike Daley, who came within a run of scoring a half-century. The runs continued to flow as Benenden reached 202 for 8 after 40 overs.

Linton Park struggled in reply as Benenden's bowlers, led by Cloke, ran riot and ripped through the batting line-up to dismiss the visitors for 122.

Benenden Sunday XI

	Runs
Patrick Coyne c&b Wright	62
Laurie March b Barkaway	18
Mike Daley ct Burnham b Wright	49
Hamish Cloke b Boyns	13
Samuel Martin ct Bell b Barkaway	31
Ben Collins ct Thew b Boyns	3
Phil Metcalf run out	1
Neal Metcalf not out	13
Lee Beuzidenhout ct Boyns b Barkaway	0
Sam Wood not out	0
Andrew Morrison did not bat	

Extras (2lb 10w) 12
Total (8 wickets, 40 overs) 202

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Sam Boyns	9	0	33	2
Dan Barkaway	9	1	28	3
Lewis Burnham	7	0	28	0
Martin Harris	7	0	47	0
Jordan Austin	2	0	20	0
Tim Wright	5	0	25	2
Will Thew	4	0	19	0

Linton Park Sunday 2nd XI

	Runs
Jordan Austin b Beuzidenhout	14
Ron McCormick b Cloke	0
Jamie Ratcliffe ct Collins b Wood	12
Lewis Burnham ct Daley b Cloke	9
Paul Ratcliffe b Cloke	0
Will Thew ct March b Cloke	7
Andy Bell ct March b Cloke	0
Dan Barkaway ct Coyne b Coyne	14
Tim Wright not out	32
Martin Harris b Coyne	0
Sam Boyns ct Coyne b Metcalf	0

Extras (13b 1lb 9w 2nb) 25
Total (all out, 35.5 overs) 122

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Lee Beuzidenhout	0	0	18	1
Neal Metcalf	6.5	2	4	1
Sam Wood	5	0	24	1
Hamish Cloke	6	2	18	5
Andrew Morrison	8	1	42	0
Patrick Coyne	5	3	2	2

Bid for Stones hanging on directors' response

FOOTBALL

■ BY TOM HOWARD

THE PROPOSED takeover of Maidstone United could be delayed by up to two weeks while club directors respond to a buy-out solution offered by Lashings World XI owner David Folb.

Folb and his representatives have held several discussions with the Stones in regards to a takeover and put forward a solution as to how it could move forward last Friday.

It is understood Maidstone chairman Paul Bowden-Brown has responded to the solution proposed, but fellow directors Bill Williams and Oliver Ash are away on holiday and are yet to respond formally.

Former Stone Glenn Aitken has been charged with representing Folb and despite talks between the two clubs being positive, he believes progress towards a takeover could be halted by up to two weeks. Aitken has already contacted Ash, who is in America and the pair have engaged in preliminary talks.

Aitken said: "We've made contact about a way to progress to making an offer. We haven't made a formal offer but we have made it a lit-



RESPONSE (l-r) Paul Bowden-Brown has replied to David Folb's solution regarding a potential buyout at Maidstone United

tle clearer how we assess the current situation. I have had a reply from Paul Bowden-Brown which is polite and formal, but he hasn't really moved it forward.

"He has agreed to talk to his directors but they are all on holiday. The whole situation regarding the takeover depends on what happens to the debts at the club.

"I haven't put a deadline on this and Paul hasn't. My understanding was that an early deal would be ideal for both parties, but the



Picture: STEVE TERRELL

response suggests that nothing might happen for at least a couple of weeks. These people can be contacted by phone so I'm going to ask Paul if he can try and resolve some of the issues.

"I will talk to him again and try and express the urgency. Myself and David Folb are still enthusiastic regarding the potential we could bring. There is no doubt we could manage it in a positive way, but if the cost of ownership is too high then it will just delay everything we can do."

MOTORSPORT



FIRST-TIMER: Louise Cook is set for Ulster debut

Cook hoping for luck of the Irish

RALLY driver Louise Cook heads to Northern Ireland this weekend in search of points to boost her British Rally Championship campaign.

The event will be only the Aylesford-based driver's sixth ever rally behind the wheel, but she is excited by the challenge of the ultra fast Ulster Rally.

The 22-year-old is 13th in the British Rally Championship Challenge standings and fourth in the junior class.

She impressed on her last outing on the Isle of Man last month, before a driveshaft failure curtailed her weekend.

The Ford Fiesta driver will hope for no mechanical problems this weekend as she bids for more points to move her up the rankings.

She said: "I'm just really looking forward to getting out there again and put together everything I've learnt so far. I've never driven the event before so it's completely new which should be interesting. People have told me the roads are quite slippery out there, so it should be a challenge."

Injuries hit United ahead of season

FOOTBALL

A MOUNTING injury list could hamper Maidstone United's hopes as they kick-off the new Ryman Premier League season at Harrow Borough this Saturday.

The Stones, who have struggled in pre-season, could be without eight players for their first game of the new campaign due to injury and suspension.

Manager Peter Nott, who steered the club away from relegation last season, has been busy during the summer assembling a new look squad.

Although he has brought in nine new faces, including highly-rated midfielder Colin Richmond from Sittingbourne, the Stones boss faces a selection dilemma for the opening game at Harrow.

Nick Davis, Mark Cornielle, Jermaine

Darlington, Marc Cumberbatch, Ashley Ulph, Danny Hockton and Tom Mills are all doubts for the game with injuries. Defender James Peacock will also miss the trip as he serves a two game suspension for a red card received in a pre-season friendly at Hythe Town last month.

Nott said: "The injuries have cost us a bit and the problem is it looks like some of them could be out for a while. The first few games could be tough for us. I'm pretty happy with the players I have brought in, we have lost a bit of experience in some areas, but we have a squad of good young players alongside some experienced heads.

"Obviously we finished 18th last season and we want to finish above that and do as well as we possibly can. The budget has been reduced from what we had last year, but I'm confident in the ability of my squad."

The Stones go into the new season with just one win from their ten pre-season friendlies.

Picture: STEVE TERRELL



HIGHLY-RATED: New Stones midfielder Colin Richmond

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